FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Soviet Union

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GENERAL

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

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[Weekly "International Observers Roundtable" with Valentin Berezhkov, chief editor of SSHA--EKONOMIKA, POLITIKA, IDEOLOGIYA; Albert Grigoryants, foreign affairs editor of IZVESTIYA; and Anatoliy Potapov, political observer of Central Television and All-Union Radio]

[Text] [Potapov] Good day, comrades. The Politburo and the Central Committee of our party, the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers have adopted a decision on the results of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's trip to Siberia and the Far East. The work done by Comrade Brezhnev during this visit has been fully approved. The decision also evaluates the present state of international relations. In particular it stresses the necessecity for intensifying the struggle for the deepening of the process of detente.

In today's conditions, the document states, there is no more important task, and one which affects the fate of every man on earth, than to achieve real disarmament. Our party and the Soviet state impart the greatest attention to this pressing task of modern times. One of the May day slogans of the Central Committee, which are published today in the press, calls upon the people of the world to strive for the legalization of the nonuse of force in international relations and for the banning of nuclear weapons forever, and it calls for an intensification of the struggle for general and complete disarmament.

Vitally important and key problems in present-day international relations were raised in the speech of Comrade Brezhnev to the seamen of the Pacific Fleet. Nine days have already passed since this speech, and the press of foreign countries is still widely commenting on the whole area of questions which were touched upon during the meeting with the Soviet seamen.

There is also another event which is presently evoking great worldwide interest. At the beginning of May, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev will pay an official visit to the FRG. It has been 5 years since Bonn first received Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. Then the leaders of both countries reached an understanding on a regular exchange of opinions, and this understanding is being implemented. Comrade Brezhnev met Chancellor Schmidt in 1974 in Moscow and the following year in Helsinki during the all-European conference. Now there is to be another high-level meeting.

Last Thursday Chancellor Schmidt expressed deep satisfaction with the forthcoming visit. As far as can be judged from the West German press, business circles are showing great interest in the forthcoming talks. This is only natural. In 1973 and 1974 program documents were adopted which provided for the development of economic, industrial and technical cooperation between the two countries. The FRG is now the number one capitalist trading partner of the Soviet Union. Over 400 large firms in West Germany currently maintain direct and mutually advantageous links with the Soviet Union. And yet another figure: Such economic cooperation insures constant work for approximately 250,000 West German workers, despite the present economic and financial difficulties and unemployment.

But it is not only a question of development of bilateral relations. The foreign press is at the moment making various suppositions about the essence of the forthcoming talks and assumes that they will also touch on military detente in Europe, including the talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe, which are going on in Vienna and the pressing problems of world politics.

Western commentators are already declaring that the visit of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev will go far beyond the confines of the relations between the two countries alone. It is expected to be an event which will be of paramount importance for the whole of international life.

Husak FRG Visit

The socialist countries are developing their relations with the states of the West on the basis of the principle of peaceful coexistence, following the recommendations which were adopted jointly at the all-European conference and following the spirit of Helsinki. This has once again been shown by the visit last week of Comrade Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of Czechoslovakia, to the FRG. The meetings he had in Bonn are, of course, of no small significance to the interests of European security, and I believe it is worth dwelling in greater detail on their results. I now invite Albert Grigoryants to join our discussion.

[Grigoryants] It is a question of the first official visit of the head of the state of Czechoslovakia, but this is not the only reason for the significance of the visit. An essential contribution has been made toward consolidating detente and toward the cause of the further normalization of relations between the two countries.

As is known, the history of normal relations between Czechoslovakia and the FRG goes back a few years now. For many years the ruling Christian Democrats in Bonn did not wish to repair the relations with Czechoslovakia. They made absurd territorial claims on it. The political atmosphere in the FRG was poisoned by the activity of revanchist associations, among which the most influential was the Association of Sudeten Germans. It has about 300,000 members and has at its disposal considerable propagandist and financial opportunities and is headed by a group of confessed reactionaries, who include a considerable number of former active Nazis and followers of Henlein. The ringleader of the association, Walter Becher, also enjoys scandalous notoriety. I once had occasion to witness a gathering of this association and feel the atmosphere of bitterness and listen to open threats directed at the socialist countries. I remember a huge banner which was unfurled by the participants of one such gathering with the words: We will never give up. That is, the revanchists will not give up their territorial claims to Czechoslovakia, which are conceived as a fresh dismemberment of a neighboring sovereign state.

But it is undoubted that the recognition by Bonn of the existing borders in Europe and the juridical confirmation of the invalidity of the Munich agreement have created the basis for normal relations between Czechoslovakia and the FRG.

Now a new step forward has been taken. Chancellor Schmidt and Gustav Husak have signed a joint declaration which has stressed the worldwide importance of detente for the development of international relations and noted that the political and military aspects of security must supplement each other. In accordance with the treaty between Czechoslovakia and the FRG both sides intend to make further efforts for a comprehensive development in relations on the basis of equality and mutual advantage.

And relations are developing in all areas. In particular, an agreement has been signed for cultural cooperation, and economic links are also developing favorably. West Germany is one of the largest trading partners of Czechoslovakia among the advanced capitalist countries.

So we are seeing yet more confirmation of the effectiveness of the coordinated foreign policy of the socialist countries, which are persistently implementing the final act of Helsinki, strengthening relations of trust and mutual cooperation in Europe and thereby assisting the consolidation of peace and security on the continent.

Vance Trip to Moscow

[Potapov] Unquestionably such visits promote the advance of the cause of detente. Next week U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will visit the Soviet Union. This is currently attracting great attention in the world press with regard to the state of Soviet-American relations. Well, I'll ask you Valentin Mikhaylovich. What, in your opinion, will be the main subjects of the forthcoming talks?

[Berezhkov] Well, of course, one of the most important questions of Soviet-American relations today is the conclusion of the preparations for a new, long-term agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. Talks on this subject have already been going on with varying intensity for over 3 years, if you start with the Vladivostok understanding of 1974 when the basic principles of the new agreement were agreed upon.

This is really a considerable delay, which is no accident. This can certainly be attributed to both the indecisiveness and inconsistency of the United States Government and also to the constant pressure on the administration from those circles which are not at all interested in an agreement and are opposed to it. This small but vociferous campaign of the opponents of detente was very aptly characterized recently by the well-known U.S. diplomat and scientist, George Kennan. In his words, they are primarily those who cannot see the changes which have occurred between the end of the forties and the seventies and who talk of the problems of Soviet-American relations using the same cold war terms. They are finally those who see mutual relations between the Soviet Union and the United States exclusively in terms of military rivalry, and therefore demand an incessant growth in U.S. forces.

Recently, Kennan continues, in an article published in the Washington POST, this group has essentially gained the right of veto over any Soviet-American agreement, both in the military and economic areas. Kennan expresses the opinion that the very demand of these elements essentially boils down to the fact that no such agreements exist at all. Well, such a purely negative position can of course bring no good at all. This was proved by the decade of the cold war with all its dangers for the cause of peace in general and for the United States in particular.

[Potapov] Yes, and recently in the United States there has been quite a lot of talk about the fact that there have been certain improvements in Washington's approach. What do you think? Are such improvements really taking place?

[Berezhkov] Well you see, we must look at how real these improvements are. At any rate, in the U.S. at the moment much is indeed being said about the necessity of adapting to a changing world. This was particularly stressed by President Carter, who has just returned from a trip to countries in Latin America and Africa.

However, one must not lose sight of the fact that the changing world includes above all the socialist countries, the socialist community, whose international prestige has grown immeasurably. And Washington, of course, cannot fail to take account of this.

Incidentally, it was precisely its recognition of the role of the Soviet Union and the socialist community at the end of the sixties, which led to the U.S. Government proposal for a transition from confrontation to talks with the Soviet Union and the socialist countries.

The changes in the world have led to the fact that the United States, which in the past felt completely secure, being defended on the east and west by boundless oceans and having friendly and relatively weak neighbors to the north and south, would now, in the event of a conflict, find itself just as vulnerable as any other country. The United States obviously must also adjust to this new situation, and this process is sometimes fairly painful.

[Potapov] Yes, look at the talk about the so-called Soviet threat.

[Berezhkov] Certainly; and, moreover, there is an interesting point here in that this intimidation with the Soviet threat and with some sinister intentions of the Soviet Union essentially goes hand in hand with--and possibly even follows--the development of new weapons systems by the United States itself. For it is in the United States that the cruise missile and the so-called MX missile and the new Trident submarine and finally the neutron bomb appeared. All this shows convincingly enough that it is not the Soviet Union but Washington which is trying to stress the policy of strength.

Neutron Bomb Decision

[Potapov] Let us recall that the decision on the results of Comrade Brezhnev's trip stresses that the Soviet Union's actions in the field of defense are aimed at defending itself and its socialist friends and securing itself and them against possible aggression, from wherever it might come. The policy of acting from a position of strength is profoundly alien to the Soviet Union, the document says.

[Berezhkov] Take neutron weapons, for example. It must be said that the American side, having initiated the idea of creating neutron weapons, put itself in a very ambiguous position. None other than President Carter has stated repeatedly that his main aim is to destroy all nuclear weapons. On 17 March at Wake Forest, he gave an assurance that his first and main concern is to avert a nuclear war. In the end, under pressure from the broadest world public, the Washington administration was forced to announce its decision to postpone the production of neutron weapons. But the United States, including administration representatives stresses that this in no way removes the final question of the neutron bomb.

Another aspect of the affair attracts attention: Certain people in Washington are planning to use this half-baked decision on the neutron bomb as some sort of trump card in the talks with the Soviet Union. They would like to link this question with other questions which have nothing to do with it. In other words, it is a question of an attempt to pressure the Soviet Union. But the method of pressure on our country has never been successful and nor can it be.

[Potapov] It is interesting to look at NATO's reaction to President Carter's decision to postpone production of neutron weapons. The opponents of detente and the supporters of the arms race, such as certain leaders of the Christian Democrats in West Germany, who apparently could not understand at first, harshly criticized Washington. Franz-Josef Strauss, the leader of the Christian Social Union, delivered crude and harsh attacks on Carter, accusing him of concessions to the Soviet Union and even of inability to lead the country.

However, in these circles, as in NATO headquarters, they very quickly understood what it was all about, and Strauss corrected himself, stating that it would be quite wrong to create an anti-American mood; and in one interview he stressed that for Washington it is more a matter of tactical considerations, concerning both the Soviet Union and its allies.

Washington's tactics with regard to its allies are gradually becoming clear. For you know that Washington has stated more than once that this weapon was created specifically for deployment in Western Europe, in the NATO countries to be precise, but it did not manage to get agreement to this from the NATO countries due to the public's protests.

It is now apparent that the campaign of intimidating the Western Europeans with the imaginary Soviet threat has recently assumed what I would call simply a pathological nature. The stepping up of the propaganda campaign is clearly connected with Carter's decision. The gist of this tactical move is thus: You did not want to consent to its deployment, so you can do without the American neutron defense umbrella in the face of the Soviet threat.

The second tactical move is to evoke, by holding up production of neutron weapons, an angry reaction from the supporters of the neutron bomb and to make them exert pressure on the ruling circles of the NATO countries from within, to push the governments toward a positive decision on the deployment of the weapons.

It must be said that this calculated tactic of pressure by Washington is having a certain effect. The West German press is now justified in saying that the Christian Democrats have begun a furious attack on the government. They intend to make the Bundestag agree to the neutron bomb. Although last week the West German Bundestag rejected the Christian Democrats' resolution calling for deployment of neutron weapons in the Federal Republic, it nevertheless approved including the question of neutron weapons in the talks with the Soviet Union, in other words, of making it an object of barter. But an answer has already been given to this. Such attempts will not succeed. This is an intention to depart from the Soviet proposal on mutual renunciation of neutron weapons.

On the whole, in my opinion, the cunning tactics of Washington, its maneuvers and this new form of pressure on its allies must not be underestimated. The public has discovered yet another tactical move in this game, to lull the vigilance of public opinion. But the campaign of protests against neutron weapons has not died down. Last week there were new demonstrations in various countries, including Denmark, the Netherlands and Norway. In Copenhagen a group of young people even occupied the building of the Ministry of Defense for several hours in protest. They left it, true, without the interference of the police. Thus, people in various countries are now more and more resolutely demanding serious and genuine efforts toward real disarmament.

Chinese-Western Relations

[Berezhkov] In connection with President Carter's half-baked decision on neutron weapons, NCNA has published a commentary which, without a twinge of conscience, repeats the unfounded demands of Western circles on the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union, they say, should make concessions to the United States in return for the postponement of the production of neutron weapons.

[Grigoryants] Not so long ago PEOPLE'S DAILY said that the neutron bomb is not so bad. Peking openly incited the NATO warlike circles, calling upon them not to dally with deployment of the new weapons.

It was not purely rhetoric that prompted General Haig to call China the 16th member of the North Atlantic alliance. The links are becoming increasingly close. They are drawing closer economically. The 5-year trade agreement between China and the Common Market is regarded only as a channel for close military cooperation. It is unanimously admitted by observers that this agreement will also lead to the sale of Western military equipment to Peking. The other day a report on the prospects of military cooperation between the countries of Western Europe and China, which was described in this document as an objective ally, was submitted to the political committee of the West European alliance.

The matter has long since gone beyond the bounds of feelers, studies and examinations. Peking is already acquiring weapons in the West. Its representatives are preparing major deals with leading military concerns in the NATO countries. The Chinese minister of trade recently visited Bavaria. The atmosphere was very good, he said. I should think so, too. He was shown the works of the Messerschmitt-Bolkow-Blohm aviation and missle concern. They make airplanes, helicopters and missiles. The guests from Peking were especially interested in the BO-105 helicopter, which is equipped with antitank missiles. It is noteworthy that the head of the concern, aircraft designer and industrialist Ludwig Bolkow, has already managed to visit China and to discuss various matters there. And at the West German technical exhibition in China, which Bolkow was formally attending, a model of the latest combat aircraft, the Tornado, which will be produced by the Bavarian concern, was on display. As we can see, a dangerous plot is being prepared behind the scenes, which cannot fail to put the international public on its guard.

[Berezhkov] All these attempts by Peking to encourage distrust in West European political circles for the Soviet Union, and the attempts to stimulate the arms race, once again show the necessity of a definite solution to the problem of real disarmament. The solution of this problem will free enormous funds, which could be used for the benefit of people: This is self-evident.

U.S. Economic Crisis

[Grigoryants] Indeed. Although the United States is rightly considered the richest country in the world, for it, as well as for others, the necessity of switching the enormous material funds and resources now expended on the arms race to creative purposes is becoming increasingly urgent.

Speaking on 12 April [as heard] at a conference of the American Society of Newspaper Editors on the U.S. economic situation, President Carter announced the beginning of a new campaign in the fight against inflation, necessitated by the existence of serious problems in the U.S. economy.

However, the President did not propose anything original. In this connection, I would like to remind you of his recent State of the Union message in which he admitted, and I quote, that the goverrment cannot solve all our problems, set all our goals and point the ways we should follow. The government cannot do away with poverty, insure economic prosperity, reduce the rate of inflation, save our cities, and illiteracy, guarantee the country energy or achieve the common good.

They are up against a whole set of problems, and we can see that the President himself admits that he does not know how to solve them. In this message, by the way, he then suggested that the private sector assume the main burden, but he should first and foremost think about the burden of arms, for he once promised to substantially reduce the military budget. There is no talk about that now.

Meanwhile, the situation in the United States is certainly not one in which more and more billions of dollars can continue to be tossed away into the bottomless barrel of the arms race.

Soviet-American Relations

[Potapov] Returning to the problem of Soviet-American relations, one must obviously say that these relations have now entered a very responsible period.

[Berezhkov] Indeed, choosing which path to pursue is of decisive significance not only for our countries but for the fate of all mankind. Much depends on the leadership of the United States. One may naturally pose the question: Will they give in to the pressure of the extreme rightwing forces, which are trying to wreck the process of detente, or will they show readiness to pursue their frequently proclaimed policy of continuing the practice of understanding and mutually advantageous cooperation? Let us hope that the coming visit to Moscow by Secretary of State Vance and the talks which are due to start here on 20 April will yield positive results. The present situation urgently demands a development of the policy of peaceful coexistence and mutually advantageous cooperation, and first and foremost, this applies to Soviet-American relations.

Situation in Lebanon

[Potapov] Let us now dwell on the situation in Lebanon. The Israeli interventionists still have no desire to quit the withdrawal from the southern part of the country, which they have occupied.

[Grigoryants] Yes, Israel is in no hurry to fulfill Security Council Resolution No 425, which demands the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon. The partial withdrawal of troops from certain regions, which are of little military importance, is merely a gesture designed to appease world public opinion and to avoid a possible repeat review of the question in the Security Council.

Second, Israel is digging in on lebanese territory, both physically and politically. On the one hand there is feverish construction of military objectives, fortifications and strategic roads, and on the other the puppet south Lebanese army is being equipped with arms and being formed from representatives of the conservative forces. It is taking up the positions vacated by the Israeli units. Thus, Tel Aviv is maintaining control over all the areas of southern Lebanon captured during the recent incursion.

And third and last, Israel, through its secret service, has incited civil war in Lebanon to divert attention from its own intervention. There were disturbances in Beirut throughout last week; blood was again shed. It is reported that the clashes were provoked by the extreme rightwing circles, but the Palestinians and the Lebanese progressives were ordered not to get involved in them. A blow was dealt against Syria, too. There was fierce fighting in Beirut between the conservative militia and Syrian troops from the inter-Arab forces. Tanks, missiles and artillery were used. Obviously, they are trying to drag Syria into the long and exhausting hostilities.

Tel Aviv's maneuvers, particularly the imaginary withdrawal of troops from areas of southern Lebanon, is designed mainly, it seems to me, to renew the separate dialog with Cairo. According to a number of newspapers, preparations are now underway for a meeting in Washington between President Carter, Egyptian President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Begin. The purpose of this meeting, the papers are saying, is to agree on a declaration of principles and to revive the deadlocked talks on the Near East.

By all accounts, there is no doubt in either Tel Aviv or Washington of the readiness of the Egyptian leaders to continue to pursue the policy of a separate deal. They had no doubts even when Israeli planes were dropping U.S. cluster bombs on the Palestinian refugee camps. It has been reported that since the early seventies the United States has supplied Israel with about 22,000 cluster bombs, a terrible weapon comprised of a container crammed with small bombs, which are themselves stuffed with hundreds of steel splinters.

President as-Sadat's latest interview with the OCTOBER magazine confirms that there are basically no grounds for doubt in Washington and Tel Aviv. Replying to a question as to whether he adheres to his former point of view that 99 percent of the cards in the Near East game are in the hands of the United States, As-Sadat said that today he can add: Not 99 but 99.9 percent of the cards are in the hands of the United States. In the same interview, As-Sadat complained that it is Tel Aviv and not Cairo to whom preference is given in all the U.S. plans.

But Washington also links the implementation of certain plans with Egypt's position. The world press has failed to report on an agreement being prepared by the United States, Israel and Egypt whereby American air bases would be set up in Sinai to partially replace the existing Israeli military bases there. Recent events have once again shown that lasting peace in the Near East can only be achieved as a result of a comprehensive settlement. To achieve this Israel must leave the Arab lands it has seized including, of course, southern Lebanon. To achieve this the Palestinian Arab people must be given the opportunity to set up their own independent state. Finally, to achieve this all the countries of the Near East must be guaranteed the opportunity to live in peace and security within a recognized border.

This whole complex of issues should and can be reviewed at the Geneva peace conference. That is the way to lasting peace in the Near East and to the elimination of one of the most dangerous hotbeds of tension and military threat in the world.

[Potapov] Here we end today's discussion by international observers at the round table. Thank you, comrades, for your attention to our broadcast.

PRAGUE WORLD TRADE UNION CONGRESS OPENS WITH WFTU REPORT

LD161822Y Moscow TASS in English 1627 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Prague April 16 TASS--The 9th World Congress of Trade Unions opened in Czechoslovakia's capital today. More than a thousand delegates represent 356 national and international trade union organisations from more than 140 countries. This is for the first time in the history of the world trade union movement that such a broad international forum has met, this testifying to the scope of the working class movement at the presentday stage, to the striving of the working people of all countries for unity and solidarity, the prestige of the World Federation of Trade Unions, the initiator of the congress.

In his introductory speech, Chairman of the World Federation of Trade Unions Enrique Pastorini stressed the significance of this world meeting for further consolidation of unity of the trade union movement, unity of the working people in the struggle against imperialism, for peace and security of the peoples. In this connection he emphasized the role of the socialist countries, and above all, of the Soviet Union, in the struggle for peace, for peoples' right to self-determination, against imperialism and for universal progress.

The participants in the meeting awarded a stormy applause to Leonid Brezhnev message of greetings to the 9th World Trade Union Congress. It was read out by Aleksey Shibayev, head of the Soviet trade union delegation, chairman of the All-Union Central Council of the Trade Unions (AUCCTU). Speaking on behalf of all participants in the congress, Chairman of the Central Council of the Czechoslovak Trade Unions K. Hoffman, who chairs the meeting, expressed warm gratitude to Leonid Brezhnev for the warm wishes to the Prague forum. This message, he said, is of great significance for our congress, for its successful work in the spirit of unity, for the good of the working people of all countries.

A speech of welcome has been made by Gustav Husak, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. The World Federation of Trade Unions has submitted to the participants in the congress a report on its activities, which was read out by General Secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions Pierre Gensous. The report points out that since the time of the 8th World Congress of Trade Unions the working people have attained major successes in their struggle for freedom and national independence. The World Federation of Trade Unions, which invariably promoted in different forms these successes, reaffirms its determination to continue giving support to all peoples which are subjected to aggression and oppression on the part of world imperialism and its allies. Characterising the crisis of the capitalist system, which heavily affects millions of working people, the authors of the report point out that approximately half of the population of the globe suffers from malnutrition. In 1975 alone 4 million people succumbed to hunger. Unemployment is catastrophically growing in capitalist countries (now reaching 6 per cent of the total labour force), inflation is soaring, prices spiralling up.

The working people of the capitalist countries, the report runs, are fighting for their human dignity, for freedom, for peace. The number of strikers increased from 7.7 millions in 1956 to 60 millions in 1977. The awareness is on the rise that only in resolute struggle it is possible, in the final account, to uphold their rights and interests. The report stresses the need of working for satisfaction of socioeconomic demands of the working people, ensuring political and economic independence of all peoples, overcoming backwardness, construction of a new fair economic order, final elimination of colonialism, fascism, racism, the exercise of political and economic democracy and all-round development of the rights of the working people, preservation and consolidation of peace, the deepening of the process of detente, development of cooperation between all peoples.

The struggle for peace and disarmament, the report points out, has become a common aim of all working people, their trade unions, the whole of mankind. A monstrous threat has been hanging over the world and its future in the recent months--the neutron bomb. It is necessary for full elimination of this threat.

Much attention in the report is paid to the development of concrete forms of cooperation, unity of action of different echelons of the international trade union movement, the biggest international trade union organisations--the World Federation of Trade Unions, the World Confederation of Labour, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions--with a view of more effective protection of the interests of the working people, struggle for peace and international cooperation. The World Federation of Trade Unions, the report says in conclusion, believes that peace can and must change for the better. And this will depend on how soon the working people and their trade unions become united. The World Federation of Trade Unions proposed to unite and to act to all [as received] who want to see peace on earth finally consolidated, who want to put an end to social injustice, fascism, racism, colonialism, to all who are striving for establishing a society, with the working people occupying a worthy place in it.

VANCE VISIT TO RHODESIA AIMED AT PROPPING UP SMITH REGIME

IDI#1524Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Yuriy Soltan report from Washington]

[Text] A mission to save Rhodesia is how the U.S. secretary of state's visit to Africa is being described here. But precisely which Rhodesia is not specified. It is perfectly obvious, however, that what is being undertaken is yet another attempt to save Ian Smith's racist regime from collapse, although, as the Washington POST notes, even in the White House there are already those who doubt that such an enterprise can meet with success.

Nevertheless, the United States and Britain are once again joining forces to draw the people of southern Rhodesia into their plan for a settlement, which boils down to the holding of elections in the country under the supervision of foreign observers, before the handover of power of the black majority and before an appropriate constitution for consolidating this handover has been worked out.

In essence, the Anglo-American plan differs little from the settlement already reached by Ian Smith, which is out to maintain the white population's dominant position in southern Rhodesia forever. The Anglo-American plan has already been rejected by the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, and Ian Smith himself is not very happy with it, believing that he can get by without interference.

But Washington and London are remaining obstinate. The imperialist powers' aim, which is to maintain a similar regime in Rhodesia, is important not only to see to it that they remain the opportunity to continue exploiting the country's riches in the future, but also to hold on to one of Africa's last bastions in the struggle with the national liberation movement.

However, public opinion in the African countries has not been fooled. This is being admitted even here in the American capital. The coming trip by Secretary of State Vance holds out little hope, writes the Washington STAR; African mistrust of the Carter administration's polices is too strong.

[Moscow in English to Africa at 1330 GMT on 14 April also carries a Soltan commentary on the Vance visit which notes that "the West intends to save its position in Rhodesia and fears the impending economic and military defeat of Ian Smith's racist regime. The Western diplomats would like to obtain agreement from all parties in the Rhodesian conflict to hold another conference. As the American press has pointed out, Cyrus Vance and Dr Owen plan to get the Zimbabwe Patriotic front to agree to a cease-fire and accept other conditions under a revised Anglo-American settlement plan."

[Soltan says that "the United States and Great Britian would like to make this settlement look more respectable in order to break through Rhodesia's international isolation and have a chance to render the country open support. Vance and Owen are planning to try to scare their opponents with talk of the mythical Soviet menace to get them to agree to reconciliation."

[The commentary also notes that "the United States would like to cover up its aims with talk that they are supposedly doing everything they can to insure that the government in Rhodesia be transferred peacefully to the real representatives of the native majority."]

CARTER DETENTE APPROACH FEATURES INDECISION, INCONSISTENCY

LD1415012Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Article by political observer S. Kondrashov: "Half-Cocked Decision"]

[Text] As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev declared in Vladivostok, neutron weapons "increase the danger of nuclear war breaking out." This danger arises from several interrelated elements. Being a tactical nuclear weapon adapted to destroy people, "manpower," but not military equipment and material valuables--in densely populated Western Europe--the neutron bomb is attractive to U.S. generals precisely because of this "surgical cleanliness" and increases the temptation to use it, with all the ensuing catastrophic risk of a big nuclear missile war. This is one of the elements of danger which, it may be assumed, will become a menace if a war situation emerges. Another aspect will emerge even earlier: By the very fact of their existence, neutron weapons would threaten to destabilize the present military balance in Europe, which is already quite strained. When one side acquires a new system of weapons--nuclear weapons--the other side invariably seeks and finds countermeasures. Every action produces a counter-action--is this not evidenced by the entire history of postwar confrontation?! And is this not called the arms race, whose pioneer, beginning with the first forties-model atom bombs, has always been America, seeking to insure military superiority over the Soviet Union.

In other words, neutron weapons are an open invitation to a new twist in the arms race. It is a provocative invitation issued at a time when the world has so plainly grown tired of a senseless exercise and when even in Washington, people so often say that it is high time not to climb but to descend the "serpentines" of the arms mountain. The enhanced radiation device, as the neutron weapon has been named in the Pentagon and at NATO headquarters, while not yet adopted, is already poisoning the political atmosphere and producing a toxic fallout of mistrust. It works not to develop but to undermine international detente, showing the discrepancy between the words and deeds of those who determine policy in Washington.

Such, in brief, are the already apparent and the possible effects of neutron weapons. They have been divined well in Western Europe, in particular, where not only broad public circles but also many officials oppose the Pentagon's "humane" innovation. The means of eliminating these effects, present and future, has been suggested by the Soviet Union--mutual renunciation of the production of neutron weapons.

How does the decision announced last Friday by President Carter appear against all this background? First, he has decided to postpone the production of neutron weapons, to postpone it but not abandon it entirely. According to the U.S. President, "the ultimate decision...will be made later and will be determined partly by the degree to which the Soviet Union shows restraint in its programs to create and deploy conventional and nuclear forces affecting the security of the United States and Western Europe." Second, practical preparation for the possibility of equipping U.S. troops with neutron weapons has been sanctioned. President Carter reported that he had issued instructions to the Pentagon to "begin modernizing the Lance missile nuclear warhead and the 8-inch weapon system, leaving open the possibility of using enhanced radiation combat elements in them." Explaining the President's decision to correspondents, a White House spokesman singled out precisely this as the "chief factor" making it possible, if necessary to "establish enhanced radiation weapons with the minimum loss of time."

Neither fish nor fowl.... I think this is the comment that can be made on the U.S. President's half-cocked decision, which has not, in point of fact, decided the question of neutron weapons, leaving it up in the air. The nature of this half-decision reflects a broader fact, which also affects the SALT talks, the fact of vacillation, indecision and inconsistency in the Carter administration's approach to questions of limiting the arms race and of international detente as a whole.

On the one hand, in taking its action the White House evidently took into consideration the broad public opposition to neutron weapons on both sides of the Atlantic, as well as the lack of unity among its West European partners. In this sense the decision to postpone and not to approve was somewhat unexpected, and, to judge from comments in the West European press, it has elicited a muffled critical reaction in NATO military circles and among some politicians. On the other hand, the very half-cocked nature of the action, which singled out as the chief factor the possibility of revising the position in favor of producing neutron weapons, is designed to appease the displeasure of diehards in America itself. The result could be foreseen. Whereas true champions of detente justly accuse the U.S. administration of the inadequacy of the announced measure, which by no means removes the danger of neutron weapons, ministers of the arms race religion almost anathematize President Carter. One of them, Senator S. Nunn, speaks of "a big mistake which will harm NATO" and U.S. national security. J. Stennis, another senator, is threatening special hearings on neutron weapons in the powerful Armed Services Committee, which he heads.

It has to be said that there are many senators and congressmen who have hung the neutron bomb in a place of honor in their favorite temple of the arms race. Their impetuosity, energy and awareness of their own strength feed on the selfsame duplicity, indecision and inconsistency of the Carter administration in its approach to tasks of international detente.

And, finally, what about the "restraint" which the U.S. President expects from the Soviet Union and on the presence of absence of which he intends ultimately to decide the question of neutron weapons? What proof of restraint is expected of the Soviet Union? Does it not show restraint by proposing the mutual renunciation of neutron weapons? It is precisely such restraint that is not visible in the decision announced by the White House.

Defending President Carter against critics in the Pentagon and on Capitol Hill, commentator James Reston writes: "The important question is not what should be undertaken in connection with these specific weapons but what needs to be undertaken to end this whole senseless and very costly process of the worldwide arms race."

This is true: The chief concern is to end the "process of the worldwide arms race" and to achieve real disarmament. But the contrast made by Reston is artificial. The process of the worldwide arms race consists of concrete actions, particularly the introduction of new types of weapons. On the other hand, the process of ending the race consists of renouncing these actions, particularly new types of weapons. The renunciation of neutron weapons--direct and decisive renunciation--is the sensible approach to the great task of limiting the arms race.

'Vague, Ambiguous' Statement

LD1416O1Y Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[G. Pachkov article: "Neither 'Yes' nor 'No'"]

[Text] For a whole week, right up to the U.S. President's statement on neutron weapons, Western newspapers were passionately discussing what J. Carter was still only planning to say. They all cited very reliable sources. All authoritatively counted up the pluses and minuses--political and military, internal American and international.

The newspaper prophets disagreed on only one thing. Half maintained: Carter has decided to say "no" to the neutron bomb. Others asserted: The President has decided to begin the production of "enhanced radiation weapons."

J. Carter's brief statement, only 50 newspaper lines long, has finally been published. Now the political oracles can discuss whose forecasts have been confirmed and whose have not. But no.... Some have read the President's decision as "yes, but...." Others with no less reason see it as "no, but...."

And so, what has the U.S. President said about neutron weapons?

Let us cite the President's statement: "I have decided to defer production of weapons with enhanced radiation effects. The ultimate decision regarding the incorporation of enhanced radiation features into our modernized tactical weapons will be made later..."

Later.... In 5 years? A year? A month?

(NATO Secretary General Joseph Luns has already declared that, in his opinion, the decision has been deferred for "several months.")

It is useful to look at J. Carter's vague and ambiguous decision in the light of two scenarios drawn up at NATO headquarters--military and propagandist.

The first scenario. Neutron weapons are developed and tested (this has already been done). Then the decision is made to equip U.S. troops in Western Europe with them. For this the consent of the NATO allies is needed (this stage, contrary to the calculations of Pentagon strategists, has dragged on for 9 months). After this the delivery vehicles are adapted to take neutron charges, and they themselves go into series production. What, precisely, has Carter decided to "defer"?

Delivery vehicles. The Pentagon does not want a neutron bomb which is dropped from aircraft in the old manner. It is proposed, as the U.S. President declared, to equip conventional or cruise missiles with neutron warheads. They wish to put the neutron charge in a large-caliber artillery shell. If neutron warheads were already available, it would be impossible to install them on present U.S. missiles and shells. Modernization is necessary, which, according to U.S. estimates, will take 1.5-2 years.

In the same statement J. Carter reported that he had "ordered the Defense Department to proceed with the modernization of the Lance missile nuclear warhead and the 8-inch weapon system, leaving open the possibility of using enhanced radiation combat elements in them."

Production of neutron charges. Less time is needed to place new weapons of mass destruction on the conveyer belt than to adapt delivery vehicles for them. Of the $40 million allocated for their porduction this year, $25 million has so far been transferred to other purposes. But, as W. Pincus writes in the Washington POST, next year production lines for the creation of 8-inch artillery shells and Lance missile warheads can be arranged to produce either nuclear or neutron versions of these arms.

Consequently, in full accordance with the President's decision, wings will in turn be attached to neutron death. This, in the words of the official White House spokesman, will subsequently make it possible to deploy neutron weapons with the "minimum loss of time." This was "explained" with frankness verging on cynicism.

J. Reston writes in the New York TIMES: "Carter was not faced with an 'either-or' choice: whether or not to produce these weapons. There are many stages in the production of neutron weapons...." The U.S. President has not even deferred the next stage--providing delivery vehicles for neutron weapons.

Now about the second propaganda scenario. It has been retouched and approved, according to LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS, by the United States, the FRG and Britain and provides for the indoctrination of public opinion in NATO countries to reconcile it to the decision to produce neutron weapons. Let us see how the President's decision looks in this context.

The original version envisaged the following: The United States announces the creation of a new weapon and says to its West European partners: Say that you need it, and we will start its production. Complicated? On the other hand, the U.S. side appears almost innocent. The new twist in the arms race begins at the request of the West Europeans. But it was here that the misfire occurred. No one wanted to appear in the eyes of world public opinion as the godfather of a weapon which increases the danger of nuclear war.

It was here that the artless idea of a kind of "knight's move" was conceived, to place responsibility for the decision on...the Soviet Union. So, they said, we "defer," but only if the Soviet Union behaves well.....In what? Well, in whatever is deemed necessary by those who have not yet understood that it is futile to dictate "rules of behavior" to the Soviet Union to their own advantage.

Nevertheless, the provocative propaganda "linkage" of neutron weapons in a system of matching the incompatible still seems attractive to some people.

And this decision of J. Carter's fits in perfectly with the parallel propaganda scenario. It is a great help in imparting a "marketable appearance" to the neutron venture. Those who would like to acquire the new weapon have already begun a terrible howling: "Carter is giving in....now we are defenseless..." and so forth. Like clockwork.

So, can it be said that the U.S. President's decision is not in some way to the liking of the apologists and promoters of the neutron madness? It does not delay the perfecting of this variety of mass destruction weapon (this is in accordance with the first, military-technical scenario). [paragraph continues]

It gives broad freedom of action to those who assiduously daub the neutron bomb with pink paint (in accordance with the political propaganda line).

The President's decision is not to the liking of those who want an unequivocal "no!" to neutron weapons. There are hundreds of millions of them. It is they who are making the apostles of neutron death dodge, maneuver and continually postpone a step, after which it will no longer be possible to stop a new neutron spiral of the arms race.

The President's decision is not to the liking of those whom commonsense and conscience ascribe to the ranks of opponents of neutron weapons, nor to those who hold near and dear the clear and precise proposal for mutual renunciation of the production of any nuclear weapons--be they atomic, hydrogen or neutron.

On an issue of such importance to millions, an ambiguous neither "yes" nor "no" is to the liking of few people and misleads few people.

It is not worth clouding this clear issue. "By cynically expatiating on the so-called 'human rights' problem in socialist countries, 'hawks' in the United States are trying thereby to divert public attention away from the strong protest movement against their plans to produce neutron weapons," a WFDY statement says.

In actual fact what, after all, did President J. Carter say about the human "right" to a dose of neutrons?

Neutron 'Idol' Rejected

LD141455Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Col A. Leontyev article: "Worshippers of the Neutron Idol"]

[Text] In the "cold war" years a Washington STAR observer depicted a future war like this: "Dawn breaks over Moscow. People are asleep in their overcrowded communal apartments.... The white-hot warheads of American missiles swoop down.... People die in a moment as their beds disappear. An instant--and the fruits of 40 years of building socialism have disappeared."

Not for 40, but 60 years now the mighty socialist state has been living and building, and incidentally many tens of millions of its citizens have long been living in individual apartments. Our people's achievements are great. The entire world knows their ability to stand up for themselves. But even today the gentlemen who dream of destroying the fruits of Soviet people's creative labor still exist.

True, the gentlemen have to reckon with a changed situation and operate somewhat differently, having resorted to camouflage. Open threats of war have given way to an inconceivable noise about "Soviet military danger," Soviet tanks, aircraft and ships, which are allegedly ready to attack the West. NATO tries to present us as the "aggressor," and themselves as the "defending side," "lovers of peace" and "defenders of human rights." Flagrant lies and absurd fabrications are used to justify the arms race and the increasingly broad military preparations against the USSR and other socialist countries.

According to the calculations of the Washington POST, the earth already has "immense arsenals of weapons of which two or three times more have now been stockpiled than are needed to destroy civilization." [paragraph continues]

And according to American Congressman P. Simon, there are enough existing nuclear arms to destroy mankind 27 times over. And still the masters of the capitalist world continue to increase the stock of lethal weapons.

For some months now persistent attempts have been made to add yet another type of nuclear weapon to U.S. and NATO arsenals--the neutron bomb. In official Washington circles it is diffidently called the "reduced blast and enhanced radiation weapon."

"The case which makes the lawyer blush is a bad one," an old English saying notes. But when is it a profitable case? When orders worth many billions of dollars are in the air? Then businessmen and their lawyers do not think of blushing. The barbaric new weapon has become a real idol for them. How they bow down to it, those "angels of death" who want to acquire neutron wings! How they advertise their bomb, demanding that it should come into being as soon as possible. What epithets they confer on it: "clean," "humane," "harmless," "innocent...."

A particular merit of the neutron weapon is that it leaves property intact, including even beds. "This bomb only kills people," American Gen A. Haig, NATO supreme commander, enthuses. The members of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission put it more tactfully: People simply "lose the ability to continue to exist." It is possible to die with equal success from a bullet or, as in olden times, from a stone axe. What is the difference?--Haig is perplexed. The neutron bomb "is morally no different by its nature from other types of weapons."

"There is nothing terrible," a Pentagon representative reassures us, "about this bomb.... ...At first you feel nothing, as with roentgen radiation. The first effects may be felt in minutes, hours or even days, depending on the dose received. You will feel weak and faint, it will be difficult to breathe; you will lose your appetite, and your hair will start to fall out. Wounds, even scratches, will not heal. Then a brief remission will set in, followed by the death throes. Vomiting blood, loss of consciousness, death. A small particle of energy, smaller than an atom, will kill you. That is called the neutron. It is a very clean weapon."

Reading such speeches, you cannot help wondering whether the speakers are in their right mind. Aren't they imitating those who, during World War II, organized long lines for the gas chambers and assured the people that they were going for a bath; who burned children on fires and, pushing them into the flames, kept repeating: "Don't cry, little one, you will soon die"?

Aren't they imitating some of their compatriots who, in the years of the Vietnam war, praised the executioner Calley? A figure in the U.S. Democratic Party recalls: "On the evening when Lieutenant Calley was solemnly compared to Jesus Christ on television, I felt I was going to be sick." For some reason, the supporters of the neutron bomb do not have such feelings. They continue to bow zealously to their idol.

They swear that the neutron bomb is only a "defensive weapon." But that is a lie. Speaking on the cruiser Admiral Senyavin the other day, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stressed: "Arguments to the effect that it is of a 'defensive' nature are not in accordance with reality. This is an offensive nuclear weapon, chiefly aimed, moreover, at destroying people."

They assert that the new bomb could avert nuclear war. But in fact it could easily erase the delineation between conventional and nuclear weapons and make the transition to nuclear war superficially unnoticeable. "Its very presence," U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT admitted on 30 March, "would increase the danger of a war moving on rapidly to an exchange of nuclear strikes."

The neutron bomb can be so small that it is capable of limiting war--another argument. This bomb, one American strategist stated, is so accurate that it could "destroy a Russian tank division on St. Peter's Square without harming the pope or the Sistine Chapel." Astounding naivety! One match can blow up a powder magazine. It will be impossible to halt the conflagration started after the explosion of even the smallest bomb. One British newspaper rightly noted: "To speak of limited nuclear war is like saying that a girl is slightly pregnant...."

The new weapon is a good "means of deterrence" and of achieving "military superiority," they reveal in the Pentagon. Unreal hopes: To every action there is a reaction. The appearance of a new weapon on one side inevitably leads to the same or a further improved weapon appearing on the other. Charles Yost, former U.S. representative to the United Nations, wrote: "The situation has become so paradoxical that every time members of Congress call for arms appropriations, they must be aware that by doing so they are simultaneously calling for Soviet weapons, which will be created as a counterweight to the American ones...."

However much noise the worshippers of the neutron bomb made, however hard they tried, they were not able to deceive the world public. Hundreds of millions of the planet's people came out against the creation of the bomb. This is "Russian handiwork," NATO propaganda started to yell, frightened by the scale of the protest movement. But the liars had to bite their tongues in the fact of the facts: Even the Vatican anathematized the bomb, and it was rejected by many bourgeois figures, in particular the British conservative Lord Chalfont. "If our political leaders," he stated, "are seriously considering using neutron weapons in the event of a war in Europe, and we permit them to do so, then it remains for us to wait quietly for the men in white coats. It is not those who live in psychiatric hospitals but we who are the real madmen."

The USSR's position on this question is clear and comprehensible. "The Soviet Union," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev has said, "is decisvely against the creation of the neutron bomb. We understand and fully support the voice of the millions of people in all corners of the world who are protesting against it. But if this bomb is created in the West--created against us, which nobody even conceals--they must be aware that the USSR will not remain a passive observer. We will be placed in the necessity of responding to this challenge in order to insure the security of the Soviet people and their allies and friends. In the last analysis, all this will raise the arms race to a still more dangerous level.... We do not want that, and that is why we propose reaching agreement on mutually renouncing the production of the neutron bomb, to spare the world the appearance of this new weapon for the mass destruction of people."

Trying to beat back the wave of protests, the other day Washington adopted the decision to "postpone the production" of neutron weapons. However, to judge by the content of President J. Carter's statement, this decision by no means signifies a renunciation of the preparations to produce neutron weapons. On the contrary, it permits the United States to return to the question of production at any moment. Meanwhile, the Pentagon will be improving the weapon. The President reported that he has instructed the Department of Defense to begin modernizing missile warheads and artillery missiles, taking into account their subsequent use with neutron weapons.

J. Carter tried to link the introduction of a final decision on renouncing U.S. production of the neutron weapon with measures to strengthen the Soviet Union's defense capability that have nothing to do with the neutron weapon. Here the President did not say a word about the USSR proposal for a mutual agreement on not producing, stockpiling or deploying neutron weapons anywhere. We are confronted with an attempt to depart from the only possible and sensible resolution of the question.

The Soviet proposal meets with the approval and support of increasingly broad circles of the world public. Its adoption by the West would be an important step toward detente, meeting the vital interests of all countries and peoples. The reason and conscience of mankind, its present and future demand that the way to the new bomb be blocked and that the madmen be denied the opportunity of sacrificing the destinies of millions of people to the neutron idol.

'Return Move' Expected

LD1421402 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1600 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

["Maneuvers In Place of an Answer--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow--TASS political observer Yevgeniy Babenko writes: The routine session of the NATO nuclear planning group scheduled for 18 and 19 April in Denmark will examine a wide range of issues of the bloc's nuclear strategy for the coming period and also, primarily, the issue of the neutron weapon. It is clear that the session will focus on U.S. President James Carter's recent decision to "postpone production" of the neutron weapon and refrain from a definitive answer until a "later" date.

One aspect of this decision was recently "decoded" by U.S. Defense Secretary Brown who will represent the bloc's leading power at this meeting. From the statements made by Brown recently and during the secretary's current visit to several West European states, it appears that the White House believes it has "placed the ball" in the USSR's court, and that it is supposedly Moscow's turn to respond.

It must be pointed out immediately that by "return move" the Washington leadership means weakening the USSR's defense in areas unrelated to the neutron bomb.

General A. Haig's latest interview with UPI is also devoted to Carter's decision. Haig expressed concern regarding the "discord" between the NATO allies on this decision.

The nuclear plans of the Pentagon and NATO, which will be discussed at the forthcoming session, do not include, from all accounts, a conclusive rejection of the dangerous neutron weapon. How else can one interpret the silence, apparent in J. Carter's decision and subsequent statements by Brown and Haig, which has met the USSR's clear and specific proposal to reach a mutual agreement on renouncing neutron weaponry.

Washington persistently gives the impression that it has not noticed this relatively simple situation: that the "ball", which they are supposedly waiting for, has long been in the American "court." A specific response by Western governments to the Soviet proposal on a mutual rejection of neutron weaponry is awaited by people throughout the world.

DEFENSE SECRETARY BROWN IN BONN TO DISCUSS NEUTRON BOMB

LD142105Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1400 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Bonn--U.S. Defense Secretary Brown, who is touring Western Europe, has paid a short visit to the West German capital, where he had a 1-hour talk with FRG Chancellor Schmidt, and conducted private negotiations with FRG Defense Minister Apel. Local political obversers note that the main topic at these negotiations was the neutron bomb issue and plans to further increase the military might of the North Atlantic bloc which will be discussed at the spring session of the NATO council.

Brown said at a press conference that the U.S. President's decision to defer production of the neutron bomb leaves the question "open" and does not rule out urgent modernization of NATO's tactical nuclear weapon. At the same time, the Pentagon boss tried to connect the possibility of a final decision on the neutron bomb in the Unites States to unrelated matters.

MOSCOW QUESTIONS CARTER'S REMARKS ON STATUS OF JERUSALEM

LD142015Y Moscow TASS in English 1836 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

["Is This a Slip of the Tongue?"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 14, TASS--TASS commentator Georgiy Kuvaldin writes: Speaking in Washington recently, President Carter called Jerusalem the capital of Israel. Somewhat later this pronouncement was qualified in the American capital as a slip of the tongue. Nevertheless, certain facts and events, which occurred in the recent period and are directly linked with the misstatement made in Washington, draw the attention of commentators.

Jerusalem, the Arab part of which was seized by Israel in the course of the aggression it launched against the neighbouring states in June 1967, was later subjected to reconstruction and "development". The Tel Aviv authorities exerted no little effort to remove in the city everything that was linked with Arab culture, history and traditions, endeavored to give it a Jewish appearance, turn it into the centre of Israel's business and state activity, secure international recognition of Jerusalem as such a centre. This policy of the occupationists triggered off sharp protests in the Arab states, vigorous protests of the progressive international forces, which demand the liberation of all the Israel-occupied Arab territories.

Taking this into account, obviously, the United States prefers to keep its embassy in Tel Aviv. However, this by no means prevents the American diplomats and high-placed officials from maintaining numerous contacts and going about their business in Jerusalem. Thus, early this year Jerusalem was visited by the secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, and then it was repeatedly visited by the roving ambassador, A. Atherton, who discharged his "peace-making" missions, linked with the separate Egyptian-Israeli negotiations. Noteworthy is the fact that the meeting between As-Sadat and Begin, organized with the direct participation and patronage of the United States, took place in Jerusalem, although the very fact of the Egyptian president's trip to Jerusalem and nowhere else was received in the Arab states as a humiliation and a concession to the aggressor. Be what it may, but Jerusalem has now appeared in the American-Israeli-Egyptian diplomatic vocabulary. Is President Carter's pronouncement such a big misstatement against this background?

U.S. URGED TO LIFT RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE WITH USSR

LD151534Y Moscow TASS in English 1454 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 15, TASS--There is growing discontent in the USA with discriminatory restrictions on Soviet-American trade, restrictions that were included in the 1974 trade law by the opponents of detente. More and more businessmen and sober-minded legislators come to the conclusion that these restrictions do harm first of all to the United States and hold back mutually beneficial trade with the Soviet Union. A group of members of the House of Representatives submitted a bill on increasing trade in farm produce by lifting discriminatory restrictions on credits for trade in farm products with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

In a statement published here, one of the sponsors of this bill, L. Hamilton, stresses that in 1977 the USSR and other socialist countries took 12.5 percent of the United States agricultural exports. This trade, the congressmen said, is bringing tangible benefits to the American farmers and the USA and helps cut its foreign trade deficit. But the further expansion of Soviet-American trade is held back by artificial restrictions contained in the trade law of 1974. These restrictions are hitting hard at the interests of the American farmers.

L. Hamilton said that discriminatory restrictions on trade with the socialist countries should be lifted, which would help improve East-West relations in general.

He said that in the final count the United States' refusal to use the large markets of the socialist countries will affect first of all its own interests. These countries, he said, may always buy all the goods they need from other Western countries while the USA will miss a chance of doing good business.

CIA DEVICE ENDANGERS LIVES OF INDIANS IN GANGES BASIN

LD150725Y Moscow TASS in English 0710 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

["CIA's Dirty Traces on White Snow of Himalayas"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 15, TASS--TASS political commentator Askold Birukov writes: "Mountaineers" were put a few years ago on CIA's payroll, in addition to other hired agents--"diplomats", "journalists", "peace-corps volunteers".

They were put on the payroll, certainly not for them to storm mountain tops, yet unconquered by man. In 1965, they were moved to the territory of India with a particular mission: to install on the Nanda Devi Mountain, not far from the frontier, a special station to collect intelligence data.

The spies--mountaineers were zealous in their work, but were unable to avoid an accident. As became known from the announcement made by American journalist Howard Cohn, they lost a portable nuclear installation with radioactive plutonium--238 to feed the station. According to Howard Cohn, it is quite possible that this nuclear installation has already "developed leakage" and radioactive substances are now contaminating the environment, specifically, the Ganges River.

From a report, printed in OUTSIDE, it is clear that plutonium-238 emits deadly radioactive irradiation for 300-500 years.

Another fact from a long list of CIA's dirty deeds has given rise to indignation in India. The government of that country have expressed grave concern to U.S. Ambassador Robert Goheen on their behalf and also on behalf of parliament and the Indian people, as a whole. Since CIA is still keeping silent, the ambassador just promised to inform India's Government as soon as the investigation into the facts mentioned in the magazine is over. We s'.-.l not try to predict the results of this investigation if they are published at all.

The matter is that "the sporting" passion of CIA's masters, who are unwilling to heed the laws of foreign states and who abuse their hospitality, can lead to a grave calamity for hundreds thousands and, possibly, millions [of] Indians. The dirty traces of spies-"mountaineers" on the white snow of the Himalayas have turned into a real danger, which threat s the health and the lives of those who live and work in the basin of the River Ganges, India's biggest river.

RADIOS LIBERTY, FREE EUROPE TO EXPAND OPERATIONS

LD152250Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1400 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington--With the full support of the U.S. Government, radio saboteurs [radiodiversanty] from Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe are planning to expand their subversive activity against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Hearings in the Senate, which is debating grants to these subversive centers, prove this.

The so-called Council of International Broadcasting, which formally controls the affairs of these centers, but is in fact a screen for the CIA, submitted a report which proposes an increase of $10.5 million over the present $69 million budget for the radio stations during the current fiscal year. For FY 1979, $85.2 million is being requested.

According to a statement made yesterday by J. Gronouski, chairman of the Council of International Broadcasting, in the Senate Subcommittee for Foreign Operations, these great sums are intended for "modernization and efficient functioning" of the two radio stations.

In 1976-1977, 12 new relay stations were established in the FRG. By the end of this year, 4 relay stations will be constructed, and next year 7 stations will be established in Portugal.

Despite the fact that the United States pledged to not interfere in other countries' internal affairs during the all-European meeting in Helsinki, the activities of these radio stations prove otherwise.

CHINA

SOMALI PRESIDENT MEETS LI HSIEN-NIEN IN PEKING

LD161432Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1230 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY [NCNA] reports say Somalia's president, Muhammed Siad Barre, who is now visiting Peking, has held talks with Vice Premier Li Hsien-nien. Though NCNA withheld details, observers believe the two leaders discussed increasing Chinese military and economic assistance to Somalia, viewed by Peking as a means of spreading China's influence in the Horn of Africa. To achieve this end, Peking favors aggravation of tensions and more conflicts in that part of the world.

Barre Reception Sparks Controversy

LD171322Y Moscow TASS in English 1232 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Peking, April 17, TASS--President Siad Barre of Somali has arrived here. Addressing a reception in his honour, deputy chairman of the Communist Party of China CC, Li Hsien-nien, levelled malicious attacks against the USSR, which have become traditional for the Chinese leadership. In protest against Li Hsien-nien's slanderous fabrications, diplomatic representatives of the USSR, Poland, the GDR, Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Mongolia walked out of the reception.

In his speech, the Somali president considered it appropriate to support Li Hsein-nien's anti-Soviet pronouncements. He went so far as to accuse the Soviet Union of "aggression" against Somalia, and by distorting the commonly-known facts, he alleged that the "presence of Soviet and Cuban troops is the main factor of instability in that area."

Siad Barre fully disregarded the fact that it was not Ethiopia that invaded Somalia's territory, but on the contrary, Somalia launched hostilities against Ethiopia and tried to capture a part of its territory. It is also well-known that the Soviet Union did not fight against Somalia.

Foreign observers note here that the Chinese side uses the visit of the Somali president to China in every way possible to fan anti-Soviet propaganda.

WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET TROOPS FROM MPR DEPENDS ON PRC MOVES

CW151229X Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 14 Apr 78 OW

[Ukraintsev commentary]

[Text] At the recent Chinese NPC it was stated that the Soviet Union should withdraw its troops from the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR]. Later, the issue was discussed in Chinese writings particularly, the 9 March note issued by the Foreign Ministry. Consequently, a question is raised: What right do the Chinese leaders have to discuss an issue involving the MPR--a sovereign state and a UN member? This issue has an extensive background. From the end of the 17th century to 1911, the Manchu Empire exerted pressure on Outer Mongolia, now the MPR, and considered Outer Mongolia a colony. In 1911, the Mongolian people overthrew the colonialist regime. However, in 1919, the Chinese warlords attempted to occupy Outer Mongolia. They were defeated by the Mongolian people in the 1921 people's democratic revolution. The Chiang Kai-shek regime also attempted to occupy Outer Mongolia. They claimed "sovereignty" over the MPR, but later realized that their demand was ridiculous.

The Chinese Government, following a referendum held in the MPR in October 1945, recognized the MPR's territorial borders. Shortly after the PRC's founding, the PRC and the MPR recognized each other and later established diplomatic relations. In 1962, they signed a border treaty. However, both in unofficial and official talks with foreign officials, the Chinese leaders have, in fact, always advocated the PRC's annexation of the MPR.

In the early 1960's the Peking authorities began to pressure the MPR and have since launched successive provocations along the Mongolian border, thus greatly threatening the MPR's security. In November 1974, Comrade Tsendenbal, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, said: The Chinese leaders' war preparations, which directly threaten the freedom and independence of the Mongolian people, have brought feelings of insecruity to the MPR's workers. Thus, at the request of the MPR Government and in accordance with the 1966 USSR-MPR treaty of alliance, Soviet troops entered Mongolia. The Soviet troops in Mongolia do not threaten anyone. More than 11 years have passed since they entered Mongolia and the Chinese people should clearly understand that the Soviet troops are there only to guarantee the MPR's security.

Therefore, China's demand that the Soviet Union withdraw its troops from Mongolia has aroused the great indignation of the Mongolian people. On 6 April, UNEN said: The MPR is a UN member and a sovereign state. It has the right to allow fraternal countries to station troops on its territory. At the request of the MPR Government, the Soviet Union stationed troops in Mongolia. The Chinese leadership's demand that the Soviet Union withdraw its troops from Mongolia interfers in the internal affairs of another country.

In the 12 April MPR note delivered to the Chinese side in both Ulaanbaatar and Peking, it was pointed out that the MPR people consider the recent PRC demand--that the Soviet Union withdraw its troops from MPR territory--a rude interference in the internal affairs of Mongolia. The demand was presented to the USSR without first informing the MPR. This is regarded as an attempt to sidestep the MPR, an independent country.

It was pointed out in the MPR Government's note that PRC leaders have repeatedly stated their desire to annex the MPR and that China's unscrupulous and increasing war preparations in areas bordering Mongolia are direct threats to the MPR's security. The note pointed out that faced with such threats, the MPR Government was forced to take appropriate measures to insure the security of the country. Thus, at the request of the MPR Government, the Soviet Army entered Mongolia.

In addition to protecting the Mongolian people, the Soviet Army defends Mongolia's independence and territorial integrity. The decision to ask the Soviet Union to station troops in the MPR was an act taken by the sovereign state of Mongolia to defend its freedom and independence.

The Soviet Army's entrance into the MPR was in line with socialism. [words indistinct] In the 1950's, when Mongolia and China maintained a normal relationship, there were no Soviet troops in Mongolian territory. At that time, the MPR Armed Forces were reduced to a minimum and even its border troops were disbanded. The MPR Government maintains that only when the reason for stationing Soviet troops is eliminated can the question of the withdrawal of the troops be discussed.

If the Chinese leadership abandons its policy of advocating the annexation of the MPR and takes the road toward friendship with the MPR and the Soviet Union, the need to station Soviet troops in the MPR will end. The time this occurs depends on the Chinese side.

The MPR Government note reiterated that in accordance with its socialist foreign policy principles, the MPR will continue to seek the normalization of Mongolia-China relations. However, to accomplish this there must be a pragmatic attitude displayed by the Chinese side.

PRC'S HISTORIC IMPERIALISM IN S.E. ASIA CONTINUES

LD1418311 Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

["Expansionism of Mao's Successors"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 14, TASS--TASS commentator Sergey Frolkin writes: "The unconcealed military preparations of China, which are growing yearly, constitute a direct menace to the security of the Mongolian People's Republic", says the note of the Mongolian Government, handed to the Chinese side in Peking this Wednesday. It stresses that the threat to the sovereignty and independence of People's Mongolia continues to exist today, too, since the Chinese authorities do not give up their expansionist designs, continue to step up their military preparations directed against the People's Republic of Mongolia and her ally--the Soviet Union.

This document, transmitted by the Mongolian news agency MONTSAME, is one more proof of the fact that Mao Tse-tung's successors have not given up the policy, in which the cult of rough pressuring of the nighbouring states is becoming ever more obvious, the policy of laying territorial claims and even directly annexing foreign lands.

What purposes does Peking pursue when it threatens the neighbouring states and unceremoniously meddles with the domestic affairs, states with which, as a matter of fact, it has outwardly normal and even "friendly" relations? The answer is not very difficult to find if we recall that yet in 1954 Mao Tse-tung laid "claim" in a talk with a Soviet Government delegation to the entire territory of the Mongolian People's Republic. In August 1965, he set forth in the course of a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China a program of expansion in Southeast Asia. "We, Mao Tse-tung said, must get hold of all of Southeast Asia, cost what it may, including South Vietnam, Thailand, Burma, Malaysia, Singapore..." This meant yet another "claim" to the Territories of independent states. Well known also are Peking's absurd territorial claims to the USSR.

Mao's diplomats sometimes endeavour to convince world public opinion that China allegedly does not intend to annex the territories, which, as the Peking Propaganda repeats over and over again, it had "lost" in the historical past. But these official assurances in no way correspond to the practical policy of the Chinese leadership, both in the recent past and at present. Thus, in 1956 the Maoists laid claim to 170,000 square kilometres of Burmese territory. In 1959--to 130,000 kilometres of Indian territory. The discovery in 1968-1969 of an oil-bearing belt in the Yellow, East China and South China seas prompted Peking to stake out "claims" to several insular territories.

In January 1974, the Armed Forces of the People's Republic of China effected a surprise landing and seized the Paracel Islands, forcing the South Vietnamese patrol forces to withdraw from them. In February-March of this year substantial rebel forces, backed by Peking, tried to entrench themselves in the frontier zone of Burma, but were defeated by the government troops and fled to the Chinese border. Last Wednesday a large Chinese fishing flotilla endeavoured to get hold of the Japanese Senkaku Archipelago, which was rightly assessed in the government and political circles of Japan as Peking's deliberate manoeuvre to hold down its territorial claims.

Historical experience shows that the stand of a state on territorial questions often reflects most precisely and clearly the nature of its foreign policy program. The expansionist policy of the present Peking leadership is incompatible with the main tendency of the development of international relations in Asia and all over the world. The peoples and governments of the states bordering on China cannot remain indifferent to encroachements upon their sovereignty and territorial integrity. The idea of reciprocally ensuring peace and tranquility, so that conditions for free development and national florescence would be guaranteed to every state, every nation, is becoming ever more obvious for them.

The leadership of Maoist China is revealing more and more the essence of its hegemonic aspirations. How can one speak of the present Peking leadership's peaceableness if it is unable to develop successfully its interstate relations with all the neighbours in Asia? Precisely this calls in question the sincerity of every Peking action in Asia and in other regions of our planet, even those that outwardly appear to be well-intended.

LIVING STANDARDS IN CEMA, COMMON MARKET COMPARED

LD151048Y Moscow TASS in English 1000 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 15 TASS--The CMEA member-countries have considerably overtaken the Common Market member-countries as regards economic development rates. Industrial production in the CMEA member-countries was growing last year more than three times faster than in the EEC countries. Industrial output in the CMEA countries grew 65 percent compared with 1970, and of the EEC countries--only 17 percent. These figures are cited in the review issued by the International Institute of Economic Problems of the World Socialist System.

The advantages of socialist economic management are particularly graphically seen in comparing the position of the working people. Late last year, there were a total of 16 million unemployed in the West, while the whole able-bodied population of the CMEA member-countries was ensured jobs.

Last year was marked in the West by a growth of prices of consumer goods, housing rent, education fees and the cost of medical attendance.

At the same time, the living standards of the population continued rising steadily in the socialist countries. The growth of real per capita income was our percent. The growth of pay is graphically reflected in the growth of retail trade. Thus, more than twice as much products are purchased in Poland nowadays than in 1970, in Romania--this growth is 70 percent, and in the other CMEA member-countries--roughly 50 percent compared with the figure seven years ago.

Housing construction was done on a considerable scale. More than three million new flats were built in a year. The housing rent and the rates of pay for municipal services in the CMEA member-countries are the world's lowest.

There has also been an increase in appropriations on medical attendance and rest and recreation of the working people. The number of beds in Bulgaria's hospitals and sanatoria has reached 94 thousand. The number of physicians in Hungary grew by 600 and the number of hospital beds--by 1,100 in a year. In the USSR, the number of physicians increased by 29 thousand, the number of places at sanatoria and rest homes and tourist camps grew by 70 thousand. A total of 49 million working people rested and took a course of treatment there.

Special solicitude is shown in the CMEA member-countries for mothers and children. Bulgaria has built kindergartens for 13 thousand children, Hungary--for 16 thousand, the GDR--for 18 thousand, Romania--20 thousand and Czechoslovakia--for 57 thousand. The preschool establishments of the Soviet Union took care of nearly 13 million children.

Fresh successes have also been achieved in the field of culture. Books were published in the USSR last year in a total print of almost 2,000 million copies, in the GDR--133 million and in Poland--155 million. There has been a considerable increase in the number of theatres, concert halls, clubs, cinema houses, museums and libraries. All of them are wide open to the working people.

SWEDISH PRIME MINISTER RECEIVED BY GIEREK DURING VISIT

LD132056Y Moscow TASS in English 2045 GMT 13 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Warsaw, April 13, TASS--E. Gierek, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party, received today T. Falldin, the prime minister of Sweden, who is now paying an official visit to Poland.

During the talk the sides discussed the key questions of developing Polish-Swedish relations, primarily mutually advantageous trade and industrial cooperation in science and technology, culture and tourism.

During the meeting E. Gierek and T. Falldin exchanged views on international problems. They stressed the importance and timeless of the realisation of the provisions of the final act of the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and also of the efforts to contain the arms race and achieve disarmament.

The sides stressed that the deepening of peaceful cooperation among the Baltic states was an important element for ensuring peace in Europe.

Taking part in the meeting was P. Jaroszewicz, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Poland.

On the same day the Swedish Prime Minister T. Faldin was received by the chairman of the State Council of Poland H. Jablonski.

USSR'S DEMICHEV MEETS WITH YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS ON VISIT

LD142300Y Moscow in Macedonian to Yugoslavia 1800 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Petr Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, is at present a guest in Yugoslavia. During talks with comrades Kardelj, Dolanc and Grlickov both sides noted with satisfaction the expansion of ties between the two parties and states, and stressed the great contribution to the positive development of bilateral relations by the summit meetings between the leaders of USSR and Yugoslavia. Petr Demichev met with his counterpart Trpe Jakovlevski, member of the LCY Central Committee and chairman of the Federal Committee for Science and Culture. During the talks it was said that Soviet-Yugoslav cultural cooperation has reached a high level and will expand further still each coming year.

TITO MEETING WITH TURKEY'S ECEVIT REPORTED

LD151529Y Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, April 15, TASS--President Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia, meeting Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit of Turkey, now in Yugoslavia on an official visit, stressed the need for vigorous efforts to pursue a policy of easing international tensions. During their meeting the Yugoslav head of state and the distinguished guest from Turkey discussed relations between the two countries and current international problems, the TANJUG news agency reports.

CANADA SHOWING SIGNS OF YIELDING TO U.S. PRESSURE

LD070927Y Moscow TASS in English 0744 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 7, TASS--The approval by the Canadian Parliament of an agreement with the USA permitting the southern neighbour of Canada to build a gas pipeline across Canadian territory from Alaska to the American frontier is fresh evidence of a tendency, that has appeared in the policy of Canadian ruling circles lately, toward closer cooperation with the USA, and of their readiness to make serious concession to American corporations and yield to pressure from Washington's official circles, Nikolay Bragin writes in PRAVDA. This decision was taken by the votes of three bourgeois parties despite opposition from the local population of the regions to be crossed by the gas pipeline.

In the recent past, the commentator says, the leadership of the ruling Liberal Party laid emphasis on the popular policy of "Canadisation" of the national economy--that is a policy of eliminating gradually foreign domination, above all domination by American capital, in the key branches of industry. Now liberals call more and more often for "creating favourable conditions" for American investment.

The influence exercised by the right-wing, supporters of the so called policy of "continentalism", has markedly increased in the Liberal Party of Canada lately, Bragin writes. Lying at the basis of this policy is readiness to adapt Canada's economic and foreign policy to the aims of the United States, Canada's main partner in military and political alliances. Yielding to Washington' pressure these circles have succeeded specifically in getting Canada's military spending increased this year to 3.5 billion dollars. It is expected that military expenditure is to increase to 5 billion dollars by 1980.

"Realistically minded Canadians insist that Ottawa follow the policy of strengthening independence and expanding cooperation with many countries, a policy which has added greatly to Canadian prestige in the international arena. The notorious policy of 'continentalism' and one-sided orientation to the USA will only do harm to national interests."

UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE ENDS DISCUSSION

LD142230Y Moscow TASS in English 2222 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, April 14, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports: A general discussion has ended at the current 33rd session of the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe. Its main topic was the Soviet Union's advanced proposals on holding all-European congresses or inter-state conferences on questions of cooperation in environmental protection, development of transport and energetics.

The U.N. Economic Commission for Europe, said GDR representative E. Moltd has attained major results in realization of the provisions of the Helsinki final act. Nevertheless, the commission has used far from all possibilities in this sphere. The USSR's initiative gives the commission a possibility to make an active contribution to consolidation of the international relaxation of tension.

Priority attention should be paid to putting the Soviet proposals into life, stressed Czechoslovakia's representative M. Veivoda. He declared that the first conference--on environmental protection, be held already before the end of this year.

Switzerland's representative K. Sommaruga fully backed the USSR's proposals.

In the opinion of Greece's representative M. Economides, in the Economic Commission for Europe there are the main elements for reaching an accord concerning convocation of a conference on questions of environmental protection.

But not all participants in the session, however, hold a constructive stand in this matter, which is of vital significance to the European peoples. Some of the Western delegations took the road of procrastinations. Though, as was stressed in the course of the discussion, the problem of environmental pollution is particularly acute in their countries. Under the pretext of the need of "thorough preparations" representatives of France and some other states stand for this question to be finally resolved at the next session of the commission.

WESTERN VIEWS ON NEUTRON BOMB DECISION CRITICIZED

ID151042Y Moscow TASS in English 0918 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 15 TASS--TASS news analyst Igor Orlov writes: Some West European leaders are in a hurry on these days to display solidarity with the official Washington manoeuvring around the extremely important question of the production of the neutron bomb, a new type of the mass destruction weapon. British Foreign Secretary David Owen and Italian Defence Minister Attilio Ruffini approved in similar expressions the other day the stand of the White House on this issue. A similar official reaction also came from the FRG. The official Bonn said at the same time that the Federal Government expressed readiness to allow on certain terms the deployment of the enhanced radiation weapon in the FRG's territory.

It must be recalled that the decision of the White House does not radically involve the programme for the development of the neutron weapon because, as was explained in Washington, the basic element of this decision must be considered the instructions to the Pentagon to carry out the programme for a modernization of warheads for missiles and artillery shells. In addition, as U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown said the other day, the decision of the President will not affect the work for the creation of carriers of the neutron weapon. He added that it would be possible to add in a comparatively short time to them the enhanced radiation weapon, if a decision is taken later to go ahead with it.

The pronouncements by the leading Western figures of the West have confirmed that the USA and some other NATO member-countries are as a matter of fact trying to mislead international public. While pretending that they are ready to hold talks on the question of the neutron weapon with the USSR, they as a matter of fact strive to make it a bargaining point, by linking the destiny of the neutron weapon with other questions having nothing to do with it.

Thus, for example, David Owen welcomed the decision of the U.S. President to postpone the production of the neutron weapon pending progress at the East-West arms control negotiations. Following into the footstep of the Washington administration, Attilio Ruffini voiced "hope" that the USSR would take steps to limit its defence programmes.

Such manoeuvres can hardly mislead anyone. They clearly testify to the striving to evade giving an answer to the explicit and concrete proposal of the Soviet Union on mutual renunciation of the neutron weapon. Being reluctant to confirm it openly, Washington and following it some of its NATO allies, prefer to manoeuvre and at the same time are trying to blackmail the Soviet Union. It must be reminded that such tactics has in the past more than once shown its inconsistency. It is hopeless at present too.

By joining in the risky game around the new dangerous mass destruction weapon, certain Western circles are assuming serious responsibility to their own peoples, and by no means display seriousness of their intentions are regards elimination of the "neutron threat" looming large over mankind. The movement against the neutron bomb has assumed a world-wide character precisely because this problem concerns the vital interests of all peoples without exception. It can be resolved only by common efforts. The Soviet Union together with its socialist friends and allies came out in Geneva with a fresh initiative--the draft convention banning the production, accumulation, deployment and use of the neutron weapon. This is the real way towards resolving this topical problem.

KORNILOV HITS GERMAN POSITION ON NEUTRON BOMB

LD150657Y Moscow TASS in English 0640 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 15, TASS--TASS political analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes: Mass protests against the plans of the enemies of the detente to produce neutron weapons and to deploy them in Western Europe do not subside in this part of the continent and beyond its limits. The alarm and concern of the public at large over the Pentagon's neutron projects is even more grounded since definite circles in the United States are by no means inclined to abandon these plans. On the contrary, they are striving to use the neutron bomb as a sort of "trump card" in their unseemly political gamble. Similar intentions are observed in certain West-European countries--junior NATO partners of the United States, primarily in the FRG.

Some people in Bonn are now making statements to the effect that the question of the production and deployment of neutron weapons should be made the "subject" of the Vienna talks on the limitation of armed forces and armaments in central Europe, while the deployment of these weapons in the territory of the FRG should be made conditional on the success of these talks. Such pronouncements are made even from high official rostrums. In other words, we have here one more attempt to make the neutron weapons problem the subject of East-West "bargaining" by linking it to other questions that are absolutely unrelated to the matter in hand.

It is perfectly obvious, and this has been stressed more than once in the Soviet press that it is absolutely illogical, putting it mildly, to try to obtain some unilateral "advantages" by exploiting the neutron weapons problem. The point in question is to strive not for some sort of "concessions" from one side to the other, but for mutual efforts aimed at ending the arms race. The concrete and constructive proposal of the Soviet Union to this effect is well known: It is to reach agreement on the mutual reunification of nuclear weapons, to outlaw this brutal means of mass annihilation.

Noteworthy is the fact that statements are being made in the FRG recently that Bonn, you see, is prepared to agree to the deployment of neutron weapons on condition that all the other NATO members shall also give their consent and neutron bombs shall "not be stockpiled only on German soil". Strange pronouncements, to say the least. Does the crux of the matter lie in the question of whether the neutron weapons shall be deployed in one West-European country or simultaneously in several states? In both cases Western Europe shall become a neutron weapons ordnance yard. In both cases the presence of these weapons in Western Europe will be fraught with great danger to the peoples of Western Europe, primarily of the FRG. The question therefore is not whether the neutron bombs should be deployed wholesale or by retail, but to secure a resolute and global renunciation of this brutal weapon of mass annihilation.

Why is it that precisely now after Washington, pressured by massive and ever growing protests, was compelled to resort to a manoeuvre and to announce its decision to postpone the production of neutron weapons, definite FRG circles have begun signalling to the White House most eagerly that they are ready to back the Pentagon's neutron plans? Commentators note that this position is to a large extent dictated by Bonn's desire to "patch up" its relations with Washington, which, according to the French newspaper LE MATIN, had developed cracks due to the criticism, directed by sober-minded FRG political leaders and representatives of the public, against the American neutron weapons advocates. But attitude to such weapons is not a mere "detail", but a question of attitude to peace in Europe and throughout the world. There cannot be, must not be any place for manoeuvres in this matter, dictated by the desire of definite Bonn circles to retain for the FRG in Washington's eyes the role of the "second fiddle" in the NATO orchestra. The only possible solution of this problem is to renounce mutually the production of neutron weapons.

GROWTH OF SOVIET-WEST GERMAN RELATIONS DESCRIBED

LD141254Y Moscow TASS in English 1221 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

["USSR-FRG: Course for the Development of Mutually-Beneficial Cooperation"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 14 TASS--TASS commentator Vladimir Senchenkov writes: In its relations with the Federal Republic of Germany the Soviet Union has been unswervingly guided and continues to be guided by the policy of developing goodneighbour relations and mutually-advantageous cooperation for the good of the peoples of both countries, in the interests of strengthening peace in the European Continent. The signing in August 1970 of the Moscow treaty drew a line beneath a long period of tension in Soviet-West German relations. These relations have taken a normal course. A firm basis has been created for widening and deepening them in various fields.

Much has been done in the past period of the seventies for the development of bilateral cooperation. The level of political relations has been considerably raised, particularly due to the summit meetings and talks in the Crimea (September 1971), Bonn (May 1973), and in Moscow (October 1974). The meetings of foreign ministers of the USSR and the FRG have assumed a regular character. Mutual consultations on questions of Soviet-West German relations and topical international issues are becoming common practice. After the exercise of the necessary organizational measures, the parliamentary ties between the USSR and the FRG have been placed on a firm basis.

Mutually beneficial trade and economic cooperation, which is based on a solid contractual basis, is now successfully developing. The volume of Soviet-West German trade has grown on the whole 5.5 fold during the period from 1970 to 1977 and the FRG is now the Soviet Union's biggest trade partner among the industrialised Western states.

It must be noted with gratification that economic cooperation between the two states is steadily assuming the character calculated for a long term, is oriented to years and decades ahead. Scientific-technical links with various FRG organizations and firms have noticeably widened, in particular in the field of the chemical industry, electronics and radio engineering, machine-building, metal processing and ferrous metallurgy.

The USSR-FRG Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, which has been functioning since 1972, is making a weighty contribution to the development of relations in the field of trade, economy, science and technology, cultural and sporting ties have been envigorated in the seventies: their volume has grown several fold. Ties between the public organizations of the two states have strengthened. Youth and tourist exchanges are steadily widening.

Using historical yardsticks to measure, the USSR and the FRG are only at the start of mutually beneficial cooperation. What has already been achieved has laid a good groundwork for the future and has enriched both states with the realisation of the wide possibilities for further developing mutually beneficial and fruitful cooperation in diverse fields. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it further intends to pursue a course for the development of cooperation with the Federal Republic of Germany. There are undoubtedly all prerequisites for the growth of bilateral relations in the political, economic, scientific-technical, cultural and other fields.

The international arena is a wide field for cooperation between the USSR and the FRG. The two states could coordinate their efforts for further improving the international atmosphere, for making detente irreversible, for resolving the most acute question of the present-disarmament and curbing the arms race. It can thus be seen that there are quite considerable reserves for cooperation between the USSR and the FRG. Their use would meet the interests of both the USSR and the FRG.

As practice has shown, Soviet-West German summit meetings have played and continue to play a tremendous role in broadening and deepening peaceful and mutually-beneficial cooperation. Such meetings make it possible to discuss the most topical issues of bilateral relations and do much for their progress, to raise cooperation to a qualitatively higher level. The forthcoming visit to the FRG of general secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev will undoubtedly give fresh impulses not only to Soviet-West German cooperation, but also to the progress of the common cause of peace and detente in Europe.

MOSCOW LOOKS AHEAD TO BREZHNEV'S FRG VISIT

LD141553Y Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Apr 78 p 9 LD

[Correspondent Nikolay Portugalov article: "Top News"]

[Text] Bonn--The news about the forthcoming state visit by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to the FRG at the beginning of May has already become top news in Bonn.

One local observer has called the Soviet-West German summit meetings a "starry hour in relations between our countries." This graphic expression reflects the great expectations which the Rhine capital is attaching to the Soviet head of states visit. There are grounds for optimism in Bonn: Last December, in his replies to a PRAVDA correspondent's questions, L.I. Brezhnev expressed the hope that his forthcoming visit to the FRG and his talks with Chancellor Schmidt "will not only serve the cause of further developing Soviet-West German cooperation in a number of fields, but also the broader interests of detente and peace in Europe."

The past 8 years of realistic Ostpolitik show that every time Soviet-West German summit meetings and talks between L.I. Brezhnev and FRG leaders, W. Scheel, W. Brandt and H. Schmidt, took place, positive relations between our countries developed more quickly.

Mischnik, chairman of the parliamentary group of the Free Democratic Party, proposes that the Soviet-West German summit talks consider all questions of bilateral international relations formulated in the final act of the all-European conference in Helsinki.

There is still a wealth of things to be done in this field of deepening Soviet-FRG relations. The possibilities laid down in the Moscow treaty can be likened to a giant reservoir not yet half-filled.

It is difficult to overestimate the role which the economic partnership with our country now plays for the FRG. First of all it insures the preservation of hundreds of thousands of jobs in the FRG economy. But this is by no means the full extent of its importance. For West German industry (with its dependence on exports during conditions of keen competition with leading Western countries in world markets) cooperation with the Soviet Union has become irreplaceable. For a number of historical and economic reasons the FRG has a number of advantages over other capitalist countries on Soviet markets. In this context particular importance is gained by cooperation, and primarily deals of a compensation basis (such as the construction of the Kursk metallurgical giant with the participation of West German firms or the delivery of Soviet natural gas in exchange for pipes). They make it possible for the FRG to export high technology and receive in exchange essential semi-prepared goods as well as industrial and fuel materials. The latter is of vital importance for the FRG which lacks its own energy base.

Among the immediate prospects is a number of major deals between Soviet foreign trade organizations and West German firms. In a word, the FRG business world is expecting a lot from L.I. Brezhnev's visit.

The main multilateral problem which will be discussed during the Soviet-West German summit talks, according to Bonn experts, is the reduction of forces and arms in central Europe. The leaders of the coalition led by Chancellor Schmidt and Foreign Minister Genscher are paying great attention to the questions of detente on the continent. Their comments on the reduction of the sides' military potentials in central Europe without threatening mutual security or parity demonstrate the realistic approach to this question. However, the attempts to reach an agreement with the Federal Government on the deployment of neutron weapons on FRG territory by Atlantic circles and West German reaction alert our attention.

In conclusion the ambiguous position which the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union opposition bloc took on the eve of L.I. Brezhnev's state visit to the FRG, must be mentioned.

The Bonn conservatives must acknowledge the importance of this visit to the FRG. They repeat that they are prepared to pursue the Eastern treaties. But this remains an empty declaration. In fact, not a day goes by without the West German reactionaries making routine anti-Soviet statements. They appeal for the improvement of the "atomic deterrence" system on FRG territory, the inclusion of virtually all regions of the world in NATO's sphere, of military cooperation with China and for the implementation of psychological warfare against all socialist countries under the frayed flag of "protection" of human rights.

But this unrealistic position of the politicians of yesterday does determine the atmosphere in which preparations for the Soviet head of state's visit to the FRG are taking place. The Rhine is awaiting Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

Genscher Cited on Visit

LD162032Y Moscow TASS in English 1831 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, April 16, TASS--"The visit of Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to the FRG will be an event of great political significance not only for the relations between the FRG and the USSR, but also for the policy of detente as a whole." This has been stated in a West German radio interview by FRG's Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher, who also stressed that his government considered such a policy durable.

We should like to use this visit in order, proceeding from our possibilities, to create in the FRG-USSR relations prerequisites for advancing the policy of detente, which has no other realistic and possible alternative.

Communist Party Welcomes Visit

LD161622Y Moscow TASS in English 1552 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, April 16, TASS--The German Communist Party welcomes the visit to be paid by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to the Federal Republic of Germany, stresses an article published in the newspaper UNSERE ZEIT.

The newspaper points out that a report on Leonid Brezhnev's coming visit has been favourably received in the FRG. This event is welcomed by the parties of the government coalition, trade unions, the German Communist Party, other political forces.

The visit by the Soviet party and state leader, the article runs, is held at a time crucial for the Federal Republic of Germany, when the question is whether the forces, which desire progress in detente and in safeguarding peace will be triumphant. Therefore, the visit will be a big contribution not only to further development of political and economic relations between the two states. Much has been attained since Leonid Brezhnev's first trip to Bonn. Much is yet to be done to use vast possibilities of fruitful and useful cooperation between both countries, the paper stresses.

The working people of the FRG are aware that normalisation of the Soviet-West German relations has given an important impetus to termination of "cold war" in Europe and promoted progress in consolidation of security and cooperation in Europe, UNSERE ZEIT continued. In the interests of all citizens of FRG, it is insistently necessary that the Federal Government should continue following the road charted by the Moscow treaty, signed in 1970, that an emphatic "yes" should be said to concrete steps in the sphere of disarmament and an unambiguous "no"--to the neutron bomb and to continuation of the arms race. Such a stand will enlist the support of the majority of the country's population.

USSR'S DEMICHEV RECEIVES BELGIAN COUNTERPART

LD100903Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--At the invitation of the USSR Ministry of Culture Rika de Backer-Van Ocken, Belgium's minister of Flemish culture, has visited the USSR. The guest was received by P.N. Demichev, candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of culture.

23D BELGIAN CP CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN DECEMBER

LD161924Y Moscow TASS in English 1807 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Brussels, April 16, TASS--At a plenary meeting held here the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belgium has taken a decision to hold the 23rd congress of the Communist Party of Belgium. It is planned to be held in Brussels in mid-December, this year. A report on the political situation in the country has been made at the plenary meeting by Louis van Geyt, chairman of the Communist Party of Belgium.

SOVIETS, FRENCH CONFIRM DESIRE TO EXPAND COOPERATION

LD141555Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Text] Paris, TASS--Franco-Soviet talks have been held in Paris, where the main directions of the new long-term program for deepening bilateral cooperation in the economic and industrial spheres during the period up to 1990 were considered.

An agreement on drawing up this long-term program, N.D. Komarov, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade and head of the Soviet delegation, said in conversation with a TASS correspondent, was reached at the June 1977, Rambouillet meeting between L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and President V. Giscard d'Estaing of France.

At these talks the sides examined the progress in fulfilling the existing accords and agreements between the USSR and France on economic questions. A protocol pointing to mutual agreement to expand spheres of cooperation was signed. The new program will embrace industry, agriculture, trade, transport and other sectors of the economy. It will also include areas in which cooperation is most promising, such as power generation electronics, chemistry and others. Both sides noted with satisfaction the successful development of trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and France. At present, the delegation head pointed out, organizations and firms in both countries are working on the realization of the agreement reached at summit level in Rambouillet in 1977 on insuring a tripling of Soviet-French commodity turnover in the period 1975-1979 compared with the preceding 5-year period and the more harmonious development of trade between the USSR and France. During the 3-year period from 1977 through 1979 the two sides are seeking to achieve commodity turnover to the tune of R9 billion. The Soviet delegation had talks with Foreign Trade Minister J.F. Deniau, during which the desire of the two states to expand economic cooperation was confirmed.

SOVIET-BRITISH POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS HELD

LD131946Y Moscow TASS in English 1913 GMT 13 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 13 TASS--Regular political consultations were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry on April 11-13 between Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Zemskov and Assistant Under-Secretary of the British Foreign Office R. Hibbert. The consultations were held according to the Soviet-British protocol of February 17, 1975.

RUBEN HEADS PARLIAMENTARY TEAM TO NETHERLANDS

LD170912Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0833 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, headed by Vitaliy Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities--one of the two chambers of the Supreme Soviet--left Moscow for Amsterdam today on an official return visit, at the invitation of the States General of the Netherlands.

SEPARATE DEALS CANNOT LEAD TO PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST

LD170902Y Moscow TASS in English 0734 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

["Middle East Tangle"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 17 TASS--Life has already many times shown that no behind-the-stage, separate deals can lead to a genuine peace settlement in the Middle East, like for that matter, in any other part of the world, PRAVDA points out, stressing that the situation on Lebanon's southern border as well as in that country's capital, Beirut, remains extremely tense and fraught with many dangers.

Formally, the newspaper writes, Israel has at last started pulling out its troops from the country's occupied areas. But the insignificant scale of withdrawal is evidence of the fact that "Tel Aviv deliberately protracts the conflict in the south of Lebanon and actually wants to evade the implementation of the U.N. Security Council resolution, to keep its hold of the key positions along the whole length of the Lebanese-Israeli border." The newspaper recalls that the conditions for the settlement of the Middle East crisis as proposed by the Soviet Union and supported by many states and peoples are absolutely clear and specific, and writes in conclusion:

"The time has already long been ripe to put an end to the political manoeuvres in the Middle East, unprincipled and dangerous for the interests of the Arabs, and return the course of settlement into the framework of the Geneva conference. It is only such a way that would meet the vital interests of peoples in that region and would be a great contribution to improving the international climate."

SOVIET WARSHIPS IN MEDITERRANEAN A GUARANTEE OF STABILITY

LD141308Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The official friendly visit of a detachment of Soviet military vessels to the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria has ended. Our Algiers correspondent, Kipros Mezheyko, reports:

Thousands of residents of the Algerian capital gathered in the port to give the Soviet seamen a festive farewell. The Soviet Navy detachment commanded by Rear Admiral Ryabinskiy has been in the friendly country at the invitation of the Ministry of National Defense. During their 6-day stay in Algeria our sailors saw the sights of the city, visited industrial enterprises in Mouzaia Province and gave amateur concerts.

The Soviet guests were shown great attention, affection and hospitality everywhere. Especially warm were their meetings with their compatriots--the sizeable community of specialists working in Algeria and Soviet Embassy staff. The Algerian press, radio, and television gave wide coverage to the visit and noted that the presence of the Soviet warships in the Mediterranean is the best guarantee of tranquillity and stability in the area, a genuine mission of peace. And the best confirmation of this is the truly enormous interest shown in our country, in its achievements in communist construction and in the application of the policy of detente and international cooperation on the basis of the Soviet people's equality of right to life and work.

SAUDI-EGYPTIAN-U.S. DECLARATION ON RIGHTS EXPECTED

LD142226Y Moscow TASS in English 2020 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 14, TASS--TASS commentator Yuriy Tysovskiy writes:

According to the reports coming from Cairo, preparations are under way in the Egyptian capital to publish a kind of "world declaration", allegedly for the purpose of "defending human rights" and "saving the world from the menace of atheistic (?recipes)". Its initiators include Saudi Arabia, USA and Egypt. They intend to create a sort of world-wide information pool in the form of a tripartite joint-stock company for the dissemination of the "ideas" of the alliance of Arab reaction and imperialism.

It appears from the materials published in the Egyptian rightwing newspaper AL-AHRAM, that the future document will set forth as a model the present policy of Saudi Arabia, which is combatting progress in all its manifestations, will urge the developing states and the "free world" to follow the example of Riyadh. This document will simultaneously extoll As-Sadat in every possible way as the man who "strengthened the principles of democracy" and who rid Egypt from atheistic ideology.

And, naturally, the "declaration" will propagandize in every possible way the notorious "campaign for human rights" conducted by the American administration and stigmatized by many Arab states as an example of outright hypocrisy. The Arab press pointed out repeatedly that Washington's crocodile tears over the violation of human rights in several states were by no means brought forth by the plight of the Arab people of Palestine, who were deprived by Israel of their homeland, the victims of Israeli terror in the occupied areas, by the persecutions, tortures and manhandling of Palestinians.

What can the new fighters for human rights offer to the world "wallowing in atheism"? The contribution of Saudi Arabia, this "model of orthodoxy", to this dubious project will be particularly great. Riyadh possesses an extensive record of "virtues", which it wishes to share with the rest of the world. Medieval traditions, the Moslem legislation with its brutal customs, the elite living in "petroleum-dollar" luxury and the dire lot of the people on the opposite pole of the social hierarchy--these are the ideals which the Saudi-Egyptian obscurantists wish to propagandize.

As to the Egyptian "democracy", which allegedly rid the country on the Nile of "atheism", the attempts to impose it as a model on others cannot but bring forth a smile on the face of every sober-minded person. Freedom for the moneybags, for the nouveaux riches, parasitizing on the hard lot of the working people, arrests and rigged charges against those who demand bread--this is the "democracy" established by the ruling circles. It has become a practice to deprive of parliamentary immunity the deputies of the National Assembly who, as it has already happened, dare criticize the authorities for falsifying the results of the elections or for being capable of satisfying the requirements of the working masses. As to the National Assembly itself, President an-Nasir's principle of its composition, which provided for a fifty percent representation of workers and peasants, has now become a declarative fiction.

Such are the ideas which the Riyadh-Cairo axis, with the blessing of the United States, wishes to impose on the world; to be more exact, on the developing countries. Putting aside the problems that are more important for the Arabs, such, for instance, as the yet unresolved Middle Eastern conflict, both capitals have started all-out efforts to prepare a global "holy war" against "atheism".

These efforts fit well into the pattern of the U.S. policy in the Arab world aimed at isolating the progressive regimes and strengthening as a counterbalance to them the "conservative" tendencies, guaranteeing the safety of American interests both in the Middle East and in the "Third World", at undermining the cooperation of the developing states with the socialist community.

One thing is obvious, however. The efforts of the obscurantists will not receive the backing of the peoples fighting for their liberation from the fetters of neocolonialism, for economic independence. Return to the laws of the Middle Ages will bring them nothing but legislation of their state of backwardness and obscurantism, of the sway of the local reaction. Washington's stamp of approval on the "projects" of Cairo and Riyadh will by no means make them more respectable.

FURTHER MATERIAL ON ISRAELI MOVE INTO LEBANON

Situation in Beirut

LD161456Y Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, April 16, TASS--The situation in the Lebanese capital is gradually coming back to normal after armed clashes that lasted for about one week. Units of inter-Arab peace-keeping forces in Lebanon control the situation in districts where there were clashes and take measures to restore the regime of security in Beirut. Nevertheless sporadic skirmishes broke out last night in Ash-Shiyah and Ayn ar-Rummanah districts. Several people were wounded.

Situation in South; 'Arafat Interview

LD141720Y Moscow TASS in English 1543 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpt] Beirut, April 14, TASS--The situation in Lebanon's southern areas occupied by Israel also remains complex and tense, contrary to the statements by chief of the Israeli General Staff M. Gur that the Israeli troops will be pulled out of southern Lebanon. The aggressors are intensively building fortifications, barbed wire fences and planting minefields in various sectors of the area. Disregarding protests by the command of the U.N. troops, the Israeli engineering units continue building roads in the areas of southern Lebanon, which are of strategic importance for Israel.

The country's national patriotic forces have called for a resolute struggle for an immediate end to the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon. The statement issued by them says that at present Lebanon is threatened with implementation of the dangerous plan of external and internal reaction aimed at putting an end to the Palestine resistance movement and dealing a blow to national and progressive circles by using the Israeli military occupation of southern areas with this aim in view. The statement stresses that the paramount objective of all of that country's progressive and national forces remains the mobilisation of all forces for struggle against the Israeli occupation.

London, April 14, TASS--The Lebanese people have every right to continue its struggle against the Israeli troops, if Israel does not pull them out from southern Lebanon, said Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Yasir 'Arafat speaking in an interview with the London television. He noted that Israel strives to advance deep inland into Lebanon's territory and capture new positions. The invasion of the country's southern areas, said Yasir 'Arafat, was planned as far back as in 1972, which was once disclosed by former U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger. The plan was drawn up with the assistance of the U.S. Defence Department and given a go-ahead by President Nixon's administration.

Amman, April 14, TASS--The Jordanian newspaper AR-RA'Y accused Israel of trying to instigate by its invasion the partitioning of Lebanon. Commenting on the fresh clashes between the conservative and national patriotic forces in Beirut, the newspaper stresses that the Israeli occupation of the Lebanese territory is within the framework of deepening the Middle East crisis and that in this, some circles in Lebanon "are playing into the hands of the Israelis."

PLO Observer Interview

LD170855Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] It is reported from New York that Permanent PLO Observer at the United Nations Tarazi, in an interview with a TASS correspondent, discussed the reasons for Israel's refusal to withdraw forces from the whole territory of Lebanon. He stressed the Zionist circles had always considered the Litani River to be the northern border of Israel. It was precisely on Lebanese territory south of Litani, he said, that Tel Aviv carried out the aggression. Israeli hawks, Generals Weizman and Gur, boasted, the PLO representative recalled, that the task of this operation boiled down to destruction and extermination of a Palestinian presence in southern Lebanon, including the Palestinian refugee camps. These aims were achieved as never before.

Israel's Zionist circles, Tarazi continued to want to introduce a dangerous new element into the Near East situation already fraught with serious failures, in order to undermine the establishment of peace in the Near East. They refuse to withdraw their forces from the West Bank of the Jordan and Gaza sector occupied by them. After capturing south Lebanon, Tel Aviv announced its intention to carry out a partial withdrawal of forces from Lebanon, but by no means a full Israeli withdrawal, as is outlined in Resolution 425 of the UN Security Council. Talks about evacuation of the invading forces from Lebanon are aimed at distracting attention from the real intentions of the Zionist leadership--to reserve for itself the West Jordan Bank and Gaza.

On the other hand, Tarazi noted, in agreeing to a partial withdrawal of forces, Israel is trying to rescue its accomplice in criminal schemes, President as-Sadat, who speaks in favour of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon for purely propagandist purposes. By the same token, As-Sadat wants to see himself in the role of peacemaker with respect to Lebanon, making it seem that it was he who has managed to get Israel to withdraw from this region.

Ruling Zionist circles in Israel, the PLO representative stressed, are essentially repeating the scenario of Hitler, who carried out the Anschluss of a whole number of European states during World War II. There is equal basis for saying that the racist state of Israel is making military expansion in the Near East its aim, and that no end can be seen as yet to its policy of annexation and seizure of territories, threatening international peace and security. In undertaking intervention in south Lebanon, Tarazi continued, the present Israeli Government is trying to extinguish to some extent the internal contradictions tearing the country apart. For this purpose, in particular it has made use of As-Sadat's notorious initiative. Understanding, nevertheless, that this initiative is dead, Israeli leaders are again talking of a possible war with the Arabs.

Speaking later about the so-called security zones, created in the south of Lebanon, Tarazi stressed that the security zones are a myth; they are created with the sole aim of justifying the occupation of south Lebanon. This is a premeditated action by the Israeli occupationary rulers, the real nature of which lies in attempts to liquidate the presence of the PLO in this area.

As far as the Palestinian resistance movement is concerned, it is fully determined to continue the armed struggle. It will expand and gather strength from day to day. Moreover, the Palestinian resistance movement has grown into a powerful organizing force in south Lebanon. The population of south Lebanon associates the struggle for the defense of its own interests with our struggle.

Speaking about the position of the United States, Tarazi noted that the United States planned Israel's attack on Lebanon in order to justify its continued interference in the internal affairs of Arab states. It is obvious to the international community, he noted, that certain circles in the United States would like to liquidate the PLO, and thus crush the Palestinian revolution. Hundreds of innocent citizens, both Lebanese and Palestinian, the PLO representatives pointed out, were killed during the Israeli air raids on peaceful settled areas.

Khaddam Interview

LD141955Y Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, April 14, TASS--The Israeli-continued occupation of the Lebanese territory is a direct threat not only to Lebanon, but also for the whole Arab nation. This has been stated by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister for foreign affairs of Syria, in an interview to Swedish television correspondents, which has been published here. He pointed to the danger of the situation obtaining in the South of Lebanon and empahsized that the inter-Arab peace force in Lebanon was bound to give assistance to the Lebanese Government in restoration of peace, legality and governmental institutions in the country.

The foreign minster called upon those who denounce aggression and interference into other countries' internal affairs to take measures that would make Israel comply with the U.N. Security Council's resolution, which demands an undelayed withdrawal of the occupation troops from the Lebanese territory.

Lebanese Communist's Remarks

LD162321Y Moscow TASS in English 2044 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Beirut April 16 TASS--We have no other choice but to continue the struggle by every means against the conspiracy of imperialism, Zionism and reaction. This has been stated at a meeting, held here, by Deputy General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party J. Gaoui. He called upon all progressive forces of the country and the fighters of the Palestinian revolution to bring closer their ranks in the struggle against the Israeli aggression in the south of Lebanon and emphasized that liberation of the occupied Lebanese territory from invaders is the main and the most pressing objective at the present stage.

Speaking at the meeting, member of the Central Council of the Palestine organisation Fatah S. Khalaf has noted that the Israeli occupation of south Lebanese areas is a component part of the conspiracy of imperialism, Zionism and Arab reaction against the Palestinian revolution, the progressive Arab countries and the Arab national-liberation movement.

In these conditions, he said, all progressive Arab states jointly with their friends in the international arena, primarily with the Soviet Union, should resolutely fight against capitulatory versions of "peace" in the Middle East and the continuing imperialist designs.

LIBYAN-MAURITANIAN COMMUNIQUE CONDEMNS ISRAEL

LD161414Y Moscow TASS in English 1336 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 16, TASS--Libya and Mauritania resolutely condemned Israel's aggression against Lebanon and described it as a brazen defiance to the entire world community. In a joint Libyan-Mauritanian communique on the results of the visit to Libya by Mauritania's President Moktar Ould Daddah, the sides confirmed their solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people for lawful national rights, including the right to self-determination and creation of their own independent state. They expressed complete support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation which is the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people. Discussing the situation in the African Continent, Libya and Mauritania sharply criticised the policy of the racist regimes in southern Africa and emphasised the resolve to continue supporting south African patriots waging the struggle for freedom and independence.

MATERIAL ON NATIONAL DAY OF SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Brezhnev, Kosygin Congratulations

LD161205Y Moscow TASS in English 1138 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 16, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev sent a message to General Secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, President of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafiz al-Asad. "On behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, of the Soviet people and from myself personally, I express to you, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, and to the friendly Syrian people cordial congratulations and best wishes in connection with the national day of the Syrian Arab Republic, the day of withdrawal of foreign troops from Syrian Arab Republic, the day of withdrawal of foreign troops from Syria's territory. On this remarkable day, I wish the Syrian people successes along the road of strengthening of national independence and implementation of progressive social and economic transformations, in the struggle for a durable end and just peace in the Middle East. I am confident that the relations of close friendship and versatile cooperation existing between the Soviet Union and the Syrian Arab Republic will continue serving reliably the interests of our peoples, the cause of peace and progress.

Aleksey Kosygin sent a message to Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Syrian Arab Republic Muhammad al-Halabi, conveying to the friendly Syrian people sincere congratulations and good wishes on the national day, the day of the withdrawal of foreign troops from the Syrian territory. I believe that friendly relations and broad cooperation between the Soviet Union and Syria will be developing and strengthening to the benefit of the peoples of our countries, in the interests of establishing a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

Important Changes, Considerable Successes

LD162320Y Moscow TASS in English 1534 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow April 16 TASS--TASS commentator Georgiy Kovaldin writes: The 32nd anniversary of the day of withdrawal of foreign troops from Syria's territory falls due tomorrow. This is an event that set the beginning to the country's independent development and has become the national day of the Syrian people. Many important political and social changes were made in Syria in the past years. Considerable successes were achieved along the road of strengthening national sovereignty and economic independence.

The positive processes in the home policy and economic life of the republic started developing rapidly after the progressive wing of the arab Socialist Renaissance Party headed by Hafiz al-Asad came into power in November, 1970. A number of measures aimed at diversifying sources of national income, at developing industry and agriculture, and various forms of the cooperative movement and all-round strengthening of the state sector that assumed a firm place in the economy have been carried out or are being implemented. The 1976-1980 five-year development plan envisages vast allocations for social needs, health services, education.

In the conditions when Israel continues its aggression against Arab countries, constant attention is being paid to strengthening the defences of the Syrian Arab Republic.

With the formation of the progressive national front that united all progressive forces of the country in 1972, an important step was made along the road of building and consolidating a democratic system and ensuring effective functioning of public, trade union and other organisations.

The active anti-imperialist course, the support of the national liberation movements helped increase the international prestige of the Syrian Arab Republic. In the complex situation in the Middle East that sharply aggravated of late as a result of anti-Arab capitulatory actions of the Egyptian leadership, Syria holds the principled stand based on the demand of complete liberation of occupied Arab lands, restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people, consolidation of Arab solidarity. Together with other progressive Arab countries, Syria exerted constructive efforts for ensuring the success of the conferences in Tripoli and Algiers aimed at rallying the forces in the Arab world that declare for a just Middle East settlement, against capitulation to Israel, the aggressor.

Soviet-Syrian relations, many-faceted cooperation and trade between the USSR and Syria were developing successfully in the recent years. The Soviet Union gives Syria technical and economic assistance in the sphere of energetics, oil, development of the railway network, modernisation of Mediterranean ports, education, health services and training of national cadres. The Euphrates hydropower complex that was recently commissioned according to schedule and with high quality of work is an example of Soviet-Syrian cooperation.

Of great importance for the development of bilateral relations are regular Soviet-Syrian contacts and summit meetings, specifically the recent visit to the USSR by President of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafiz al-Asad and his talks with general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev an and other Soviet leaders. The Soviet-Syrian communique on the results of this visit points to "firm resolve to continue joint efforts to achieve an all-embracing and just set settlement on the basis of the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab lands o occupied in 1967 and implementation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arab people." Commenting on the results of President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to the USSR the Syrian newspaper TISHRIN stressed that "consolidation of Syria's relations with the Soviet Union serves national interests of the Syrian Arab Republic and the entire Arab nation, the interests of peoples' struggle for peace, progress and freedom".

SYRIAN COMMUNIST DESCRIBES BATTLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM

LD1617567 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow April 16 TASS--A bitter fight is under way in the Middle East between the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction, on the one hand, and the liberation and progressive forces, on the other, said Khalid Baqdash, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party, in his appearance in Central Television of the Soviet Union today.

Israel's recent aggression in the south of Lebanon, Khalid Baqdash said, was undertaken in accordance with a single plan of the U.S.A.-Israel-As-Sadat alliance. The main aim of this plan is to frustrate all efforts to bring a just and durable peace to the Middle East, to eliminate the Palestine resistance movement and to impose the terms of capitulation upon the Arabs.

The enemies of the Arab nation, Khalid Baqdash said, seek to isolate the Arab national-liberation movement from the Soviet Union, which is a true and sincere friend of all peoples fighting against imperialism and aggression.

The Soviet Union's role in supporting the national-liberation movement is great in all spheres: political, economic, military, cultural. The USSR firmly and consistently carries out the Leninist policy--this is the main force opposing imperialism in the whole world. The awareness of the need to strengthen and broaden the ties of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries is deeply rooted in the masses of the Syrian people. And no forces, no designs of the enemies will be able to prevent the strengthening of this friendship. The speaker expressed profound gratitude to the Soviet people, sincere patriots and internationalists, for the noble role the land of the Soviets is playing in consolidation of peace, democracy, socialism and the national-liberation movement in the whole world.

MINISTER EXPLAINS SYRIA'S APPROACH TO ARAB SUMMIT

LD162112Y Moscow TASS in English 1749 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Warsaw, April 16th 1978--POLISH PRESS AGENCY reports: PAP 4 Damascus 16 April--The Syrian minister of information, Dr Ahmad Iskandar, granted the PAP correspondent in the Middle East Tadeusz Jackowski, an interview on topical Middle East problems. Dr Iskandar, who is a member of the new Syrian Cabinet, has long been holding the post of minister of information and spokesman for President Hafiz al-Asad. Moreover, Dr Iskandar performs responsible function in the ruling Ba'th Party.

Responding the PAP correspondent's questions on the initiatives aimed at holding an Arab summit meeting, Minister Iskandar said that Syria's approach to the problem was clear and unambiguous. Similarly to the other countries which oppose the policy of continuing a dialogue with Israel, Syria is not going to take part in a meeting in which the Egyptian president, Anwar as-Sadat, would participate. The minister added that the Egyptian leader had lost the right to take part in any meeting of all Arab states as a result of the so-called peace initiatives which he had taken together with Israel. Minister Iskandar also stressed that neither leaders of Syria nor those of the allied countries could trust the Egyptian president any longer. Ahmad Iskandar also said that in present circumstances striving for the convocation of an Arab summit was nothing but helping As-Sadat; Ahmad Iskandar said that the Syrian Government, the PLO and the Lebanese authorities hold the view that the so-called Israeli partial withdrawal is only a political manoeuvre and a mask covering Tel Aviv's constant striving for expansion. The goal of Syria and the PLO is the withdrawal of all forces. The question of the future of Lebanon depends on a quick withdrawal of the Israeli occupying forces. I can say that now a perfect atmosphere for taking future oriented solutions prevails in relations among Syria, the Lebanese Government and the PLO, emphasized Ahmad Iskandar.

Minister Iskandar also said tht Syria maintained that the restoration of the internal balance in Lebanon would depend on the process of implementing the agreements which define the status of the Palestinians in that country, which were signed in 1969 and in 1976. The agreements are the only durable foundation on which the process of stabilizing the situation in Lebanon and its security can rest, said Ahmad Iskandar.

SHAH, SKACHKOV DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS

LD161329Y Moscow TASS in English 1008 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Teheran, April 16, TASS--Shah of Iran Mohammed Reza Pahlavi received Semen Skachkov, the chairman of the State Committee of the USSR Council of Minister for External Economic Relations, now staying here on a visit at the head of a Soviet economic delegation. The present state and prospects for development of commercial and economic relations between the two countries were discussed during the conversation. The Soviet-Iranian agreement on cooperation in the construction of the 500-km stretch of the second thread of the trans-Iranian gas pipeline was signed during the stay of the Soviet delegation in Iran.

MATERIAL ON TRIPOLI CONFERENCE ON COOPERATION

Chandra Remarks

LD151530Y Moscow TASS in English 1500 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 15 TASS--TASS correspondent Mikhail Miroshnikov reports: The second world conference on the Ways of Development and International Cooperation, sponsored by the World Peace Council, has ended here.

This conference, said Romesh Chandra, president of the World Peace Council, in a TASS interview, is a great success for the peace forces. It opened up new great possibilities for strengthening cooperation and unity between the developing countries and the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community in the common work of building a new world in which exploitation, hunger and poverty will be eliminated for good. The conference, he said, demonstrated the solidarity of the representatives of different countries of the world and their deep awareness of the danger that lies in the new and sometimes well-masked plans and machinations of the forces of imperialism and neocolonialism, plans aimed at dividing and weakening the united front of the developing states of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Present-day imperialism and neocolonialism, Romesh Chandra said, are engaged in subversion in many international organisations and at different levels. The task of the conference and all our activities today is to expose these manoeuvres by the forces of reaction and to prevent them from carrying out their sinister plans.

These issues were the cornerstone of the conference. All speakers at the conference stressed the importance of this activity and the dangerousness of the plans of imperialism and neocolonialism. All participants in the conference, Romesh Chandra said, expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community for their assistance and support to the peoples of the developing countries.

Concluding Actions

LD151322Y Moscow TASS in English 1226 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 15 TASS (TASS correspondent)--The second world conference "Ways of Development and International Cooperation" sponsored by the World Peace Council has closed in the Libyan capital. It was attended by more than 80 delegations from various countries of the world, as well as representatives of the United Nations Organization, regional organizations and progressive national-liberation movements.

Participants in the conference discussed questions pertaining to strengthening the unity of peoples in the struggle for peace, disarmament and international detente, as well as questions of changing the existing system of international economic relations and the struggle of developing countries for economic independence.

The conference adopted an address to the peoples of the world noting the necessity of stepping up the efforts of all the peace forces of the world in the struggle for deepening international detente, ending the arms race, general and complete disarmament, against the imperialist military blocs and bases, creating a real threat to peace and security of the peoples of the world.

Delegates to the conference issued an ardent call to all peoples of the world, progressive public, all people of goodwill to strengthen in every way possible their ranks in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and all manifestations of racial discrimination, to uphold firmly the principles of democracy and justice, the right of all peoples to socio-economic progress.

In its special resolution on the neutron bomb the conference expressed a resolute protest against the intentions of the United States to produce the new deadly weapon and equip its NATO allies with it.

The conference adopted a number of documents on the problems of economic development of the liberated countries as well as questions in connection with the strengthening of cooperation between states with different social and economic systems.

They note that the most rapid and effective development of the young states of Asia, Africa and Latin America, the attainment by them of economic independence and social progress are possible only through the methods of socialist construction. In this connection, necessity was specially stressed of developing all-round cooperation between the developing countries and the states of the socialist community.

YAR MILITARY DELEGATION VISITS MUSEUM, ACADEMY

LD131343Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Text] On 9 April Lt Col A.S. Ash-Shaybah, chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR], who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit, and those accompanying him visited the central museum of the USSR Armed Forces.

The guests from the YAR acquainted themselves with interest with the museum's exhibition relating the heroic history of the USSR Armed Forces.

On 10 April Lt Col A.S. Ash-Shaybah, and those accompanying him visited the Marshal of the Soviet Union R. Ya. Malinovskiy Military Academy of Armored Troops. Marshal of Tank Troops O.A. Losik, the chief of the academy, familiarized the guests with the organization of the training process and described the glorious combat traditions of this higher military educational establishment.

The chief of General Staff of the YAR Armed Forces was accompanied by Col Gen G. I. Salmanov.

RESURGENCE OF ACTIVITIES OF CYPRIOT TERRORISTS REPORTED

LD1416567 Moscow in Greek to Greece 1900 GMT 13 Apr 78 LD

[Vladislav Drobkov dispatch]

[Text] Athens--The events of the last few days testify to an intensification of subversive activities by enemies of the independent state of Cyprus. Outside Cyprus these activities can be seen in attempts to prevent a just and peaceful settlement of the Cyprus crisis and to impose on Cypriots NATO variations of a so-called solution to their problems through consolidation in the eastern Mediterranean of the militarist strongholds of the Pentagon and NATO.

Inside Cyprus itself the intensification of the subversive activities against the republic can be seen in a resurgence of activities of terrorist units and new actions and provocations by local reaction. The reports concerning the creation of new illegal organizations, the stockpiling of arms by the latter and their extensive relations with the enemies of an independent, sovereign and territorially integral Cyprus cause anxiety among the republic's democratic public. Great anxiety is caused by the [words indistinct] mobilization of reaction and the acts of terrorism and violence. The public cannot fail to see the danger for the Republic of Cyprus created by the irresponsible actions by these organizations. Cyprus is currently going through one of the most difficult stages of its history.

The Government of Cyprus has stated its readiness to decisively repulse new provocations by armed outlaws. A series of measures whose aim is to end the activities of the terrorists have been implemented. The result has been the recent arrest of a large group of conspirators, members of the illegal terrorist organizations. Among those arrested is one of the illegal terrorist organizations. Among those arrested is one of the leaders of the illegal national Organization of Cypriot Fighters-B--Vasos Pavlidhis. According to figures issued by representatives of the Cypriot Government and legal authorities, about 20 persons have been arrested. All had been engaged in preparing antigovernment moves, in spying on behalf of a third country and in illegal possession of arms. They are also accused in connection with a whole series of other matters.

According to press reports, Pavlidhis is responsible for organizing last December's kidnaping of the son of Cypriot President Kiprianou. Most of those arrested were involved in the criminal coup against the government which took place in Cyprus in 1974. They were later granted amnesty but they remained agents on the payroll of the enemies of an independent Cyprus, instruments of the NATO intelligency services.

The criminal plans of reaction and its foreign protectors must be decisively repulsed: this is the demand of the broad sections of the people of Cyprus. The Restorative Party of the Working People of Cyprus, which is consistently fighting for the elimination of the illegal groups and organizations, for the suppression of subversive activities and for a purge of the state machinery and punishment of the putschists, demands that an end be put without fail to the machinations of local reaction. This demand is also supported by the other democratic parties, by the trade unions, youth, and women's and other social organizations. Time has proved that, while conspirators remain at large, the enemies of Cyprus abroad will go on using them for their own subversive aims. The arrest of a group of members of the reactionary organizations who had been planning terrorist acts against public and political figures and against diplomatic delegations in Cyprus (?testifies to) dangerous activity by the illegal groups. The people of Cyprus are urged to be alert and to wage a more determined struggle against provocations by right-wing forces.

ZIMBABWE PATRIOTIC FRONT SCORES U.S., UK STAND

Nkomo on Power Transfer

LD170918Y Moscow TASS in English 0830 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, April 17 TASS--The Zimbabwe Patriotic Front will continue its armed struggle until power in the country is transferred to the genuine representatives of the African majority. This was stated here by one of the leaders of the Patriotic Front Joshua Nkomo upon his return from Dar es Salaam after talks with the state secretary of the United States, Cyrus Vance, and the foreign secretary of Britain, David Owen, on the question of normalising the situation in Rhodesia. Joshua Nkomo sharply criticized the stand of the United States and Britain, which are striving, cost what it may, to secure concessions from the patriotic forces and to impose upon them a neo-colonialist solution of the Rhodesian problem.

Stance on Independence

LD161658Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The meeting in the Tanzanian capital on settling the Rhodesian question closed today. The participants were the leaders of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe, Nkomo and Mugabe; Vance, the U.S. secretary of state; and Owen, British foreign secretary. The Patriotic Front again confirmed its principled position and demands that true independence be granted to the people of Zimbabwe. The front's leaders decisively rejected the basic proposals of the Anglo-American plan of settlement, which answer the interest of the West.

AFRICAN PAPER REVEALS SECRET WESTERN PLAN FOR NAMIBIA

LD142002Y Moscow TASS in English 1900 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

["Double-Faced Policy"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 14 TASS--TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik writes: On the eve of Cyrus Vance's and David Owen's visit to Pretoria where the leaders of Western diplomacy on their way from Dar es Salaam to Salisbury intend to discuss with their South African counterparts the question of the future of Namibia (South-West Africa), sensational exposes were made. The exposes are indicative of the duplicity of the policy of the West with regard to the future of that country which is illegally occupied by the Republic of South Africa.

The matter concerns the materials that appeared on the pages of the Johannesburg STAR. A correspondent of this biggest newspaper of the Republic of South Africa in Windhoek came across confidential documents concerning the details of the plan for a 'political solution to the problem of South-West Africa', which was worked out by the West recently and submitted to the sides concerned for consideration. It is obvious from the documents that only a draft plan was referred to the patriotic organisation SWAPO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the people of Namibia, while the Government of the Republic of South Africa also got an 'explanatory memo'. The memo, according to the STAR, contains assurances which are not included in the Western powers' official proposals concerning the territory, and enable one to draw a conclusion that "the SWAPO's many important demands were not satisfied by the plan on the future of South-West Africa, plan compiled by the ambassadors of the USA, Britain, France, the FRG, and Canada to the Republic of South Africa. An opinion is forming up that in actual fact the stand of the authors of the document is much closer to the Republic of South Africa than the public statements of the West.

Really, there is no substantial discrepancy between the goals of the diplomacy of the USA and Britain on the one hand and the Republic of South Africa on the other, in spite of the verbal wrangle. All the three states seek first of all to ensure Western control over Namibia, just like over Rhodesia, too, with the help of black puppets so as subsequently to connect the territories with the Republic of South Africa economically and politically, and create a strong bastion of imperialism in the African Continent's south.

In South Africa's and Western powers' approach to the question of realisation of this long-term strategic goal, there is difference only in details. The racists hope to consolidate their presence in South-West Africa by means of so-called internal settlement. Barring the patriotic forces which group round the SWAPO from participation in deciding on Namibia's future, they are trying to come to terms with venal tribal chiefs and with their help create the semblance of the existence of an African rule in South-West Africa. As for the Western powers which have to pretend that they reckon with the opinion of the UNO and the independent African states' demand for the transfer of power in Namibia to the patriotic forces, they in their "plan of five" formally recognise the SWAPO interests and compromise with Pretoria in everything else.

The exposes by the STAR are interesting not so much because they again confirmed the community of imperialists' and racists' political goals as because they made it possible to describe as a principle the tendency which showed up in the Rhodesia policy of the West earlier.

By putting forward the Anglo-American plan for a settlement in Rhodesia, its authors were pretending that they defended the interests of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe whereas in actual fact they took their time to enable Ian Smith to come to terms with the African puppets and enable them to set up a provisional government in Salisbury. As Vance's and Owen's talks in Dar es Salaam showed, now that the "government" is set up, the West is steering matters to legalising it and at the same time using it as a means of pressure on the patriots. A similar tactic: 'Words of support to the patriots and real support to the racists' is now being used by the West in Namibia as well.

Such a tactic is fraught with the most serious consequences for the future of the entire southern Africa, since it leaves the patriots of Namibia no other alternative but to carry on the armed struggle in the name of gaining genuine independence, against exploitation of South-West Africa by imperialist monopolies. Only the realisation of the principle of genuine self-determination and the granting of independence to Namibia in accordance with the U.N. decisions and resolutions can prevent the emergence of a new dangerous seat of international tension in South-West Africa.

CAUSES OF SOMALI COUP ATTEMPT NOT IN MOSCOW, HAVANA

LD152022Y Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] As you may have heard, it has been reported from Mogadiscio that there has been an abortive coup in Somalia launched by a group of army officers. The action was suppressed by army and tank units. Radio Moscow observer Georgiy Tanov writes in this connection:

Almost immediately after the abortive coup some of the Western press organs started hinting broadly for the mysterious hand of Moscow. The misery [as heard] of yet another anti-Soviet slander is obvious--it was born of the unbridled fantasy of its authors. However, what is noteworthy is that some persons are in a hurry to add their own tall stories to the fabrications of the Western press.

For example, in the Sudan attempts are being made, and at the highest level at that, to link even a doctors strike with the so-called intrigues of the Russian bear, and the synchronization of this anti-Soviet campaign will become apparent if we recall that the American Central Intelligence Agency has joined in it most actively in the person of its deputy director, Frank Carlucci. However, let us get back to the events in Somalia.

Obviously the true causes of the coup attempt and the ensuing fresh outburst of anti-Soviet and anti-Cuban campaign of slander should not be sought either in Moscow or in Havana. The West and the reactionary Arab regimes have failed in their schemes to suppress the Ethiopian revolution using others as a cat's paw and retailer (?to draw) the political map of the Horn of Africa in their own style, and so have the attempts to picture the just liberation struggle waged by the people and army of revolutionary Ethiopia as a means of establishing Soviet-Cuban control over the region. It is a historical truth that war can't resolve complex interstate problems, and it has been proved once again. The expansionist and adventurist policy pursued by certain quarters in Mogadiscio has led to Somalia's isolation--it couldn't have led to anything else for that matter. It has led to a political impasse and frantic maneuvering between Washington and Peking, and it is to intensify this maneuvering that another portion of anti-Soviet slander has become necessary.

The practical purpose of yet another anti-Soviet drive, launched by certain elements, also lies in the attempt to whitewash the arming of forces opposing Africa's progressive development. The idea is to add fuel to the fire of the expansionist, revenge-seeking hysteria and to turn the Horn of Africa into a permanent seat of tension on the Middle East pattern. In other words, as the Soviet news agency TASS pointed out in a statement on yet another anti-Soviet campaign, the aim is to aggravate the situation in the area, tense as it is. Yet this objective is unlikely to earn the gratitude or confidence of the Africans to those who mastermind and spread this campaign, especially of the Africans who have experienced the bitterness, pain and ruin of the absurd, unnecessary and fratricidal war.

SOUTH AFRICAN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS BOYCOTTED

LD162336Y Moscow TASS in English 1934 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Maputo April 16 TASS--The elections to the "municipal council" have been held amid political apathy and inacitivity of electors in Johannesburg's African suburb of Soweto. Only 3,600 out of 60,000 electors came to the polls. Taking the decision on elections in Soweto, the racist authorities of the Republic of South Africa pursued a double aim: first, to create in the country and abroad the impression of liberalization of regime and smoothed over race problem, second to oppose to the rank-and-file Africans the local elite who would obediently fulfill all instructions of the whites in Pretoria's opinion. This would contribute to the split of the united front of the opponents of apartheid. It is not accidental that wealthy people of the suburb were on the ballot list: Soweto's former Mayor David Tabeheli, a big businessman Efraim Tehebalele, and the like. But the authorities' election maneuvers were unable to mislead the bulk of Soweto's residents. They vividly responded to the call of patriotically-minded Africans and boycotted the racist farce.

INDIAN NEWSPAPERS REACT TO CIA ACTIONS ON HIMALAYAN RANGE

BK161727 Moscow in Hindi to India 1130 GMT 16 Apr 78 BK

[Vitaliy Ilyashenko dispatch from Delhi]

[Text] Some new facts have come to light about the CIA espionage activities in India. Newspapers have reported that in 1964, [as heard] a CIA mountain-climbing team planted two nuclear-powered generators operating with radioactive plutonium in the Himalayan range. These generators were planned on Indian soil without the knowledge of the Indian Government. The generators were designed to monitor atomic tests inside China. One of these generators is missing.

The U.S. scientists say the generator's shield will gradually disintegrate due to corrosion or other reasons and will cause radioactive contamination of the Ganges watershed in the Himalayan range.

The PATRIOT of Delhi writes: The new exposure of CIA activities in all ways harms the interests of the Indian people. First, it poses danger to the lives of millions of people due to radioactive contamination of the Ganges water. Second, the CIA action flagrantly violates Indian sovereignty.

A few U.S. (?senators) have become concerned with the relevation and have demanded that President Carter act to find the generator and eliminate the dangers posed by it.

As the Indian newspapers have written, the new facts about the CIA activities in India are further proof that the United States remains indifferent to the rights and interests of other countries. It feels that it can act only for its own interests.

The Indian Government has expressed grave concern at the new exposure of the CIA's abominable acts inside India and has demanded that the U.S. ambassador in India provide (?full information) in the case.

Demonstrations at U.S. Embassy

LD161740Y Moscow TASS in English 1634 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, April 16, TASS--A mass demonstration of protest against the CIA's dangerous activity in India's territory was held outside the building of the U.S. Embassy in Delhi on the initiative of the all-India youth federation and the all-India federation of students.

A report that two nuclear devices were installed and "lost" by CIA agents in the Himalayas caused serious concern of the public, for these devices are potential sources of radioactive contamination of the waters of the Ganges and a real threat to the population's life. The demonstrators carried posters with slogans: "CIA, Leave India Alone", "CIA, Hands Off India" and others. They demanded that the dangerous activity of this U.S. agency in India be stopped.

Addressing the demonstrators, chairman of the all-India youth federation, member of parliament C. K. Chandrappan said that the Indian people will never tolerate violation of their sovereign rights. He said that the CIA is mankind's enemy number one.

The all-India organisation of peace and solidarity described the actions of the espionage agency as criminal.

USSR, JAPAN FISHERY MINISTERS SPEAK AT PLENARY SESSION

OW150937Y Moscow in Japan to Japan 1200 GMT 13 Apr 78 OW

[(Konstantin Gushikov) report]

[Excerpts] Yesterday's plenary session of the Soviet and Japanese delegations in Moscow was particularly significant since it reinvigorated the Soviet-Japan negotiations on fishery cooperation. The session was attended by Soviet Fish Industry Ministry Ishkov and Japanese Agriculture and Forestry Minister Nakagawa. Shigeitsug, Japanese ambassador to the USSR, was also present.

The Soviet-Japan fishery negotiations have been conducted in Moscow for the past 2 months. This is a considerable amount of time, but despite negotiators' efforts, the sides were unable to agree on some important problems. Thus, the two fishery ministers agreed to meet in an effort to resolve all remaining problems. The first round of their talks was held yesterday morning for about 3 hours. This was followed by a plenary session of the delegations in the afternoon, with the two ministers present.

Addressing the plenary session, Soviet Fish Industry Minister Ishkov said: [Begin recording of Ishkov speaking in Russian fading into Japanese translation]: We are going to assess the work that the two delegations have performed for the past 2 months. The delegations have done a great deal in outlining new rules on a wide range of problems relating to fishery cooperation. When we review the history of Soviet-Japan fishery cooperation, we see that the two countries have always maintained the position of good will and mutual understanding. The bilateral relations have been based on a realistic and objective stand. Our cooperation in this new fishery age is based on the Moscow and Tokyo agreements, and we have an excellent foundation for broader and greater cooperation.

The Soviet Union and Japan are large fishing powers; therefore, they have to set an example of effective and scientific utilization of marine resources. Needless to say, this also applies to the utilization of resources in the coastal waters of the two countries. On many problems the two sides have identical or similar views. However, we must discuss unresolved problems, which I believe we can settle in the traditional spirit of good will and mutual understanding. [end recording]

In conclusion, Fish Industry Minister Ishkov expressed his conviction that the current negotiations would be brought to a successful conclusion.

Agriculture and Forestry Minister Nakagawa also addressed the plenary session. After expressing his thanks to Fish Industry Minister Ishkov for the invitation to visit Moscow, Nakagawa said: [Begin recording] As your excellency Mr Minister knows, Japan and the Soviet Union, [words indistinct] of the world, have satisfactorily settled quite a number of fishery problems for over 20 years through [word indistinct] and dialog under the Japan-Soviet fishery agreement. I think you also know that the Japan-Soviet fishery relations are one of the important [words indistinct] Not only concerning fishing but also in overall Japan-Soviet relations and have played an important role as a symbol of our relations.

I believe that even in this age of the 200-mile zone, it is absolutely necessary for Japan and the Soviet Union to develop their fishery relations through the new Japan-USSR Fishery Committee to correctly and properly manage, augment, and effectively utilize the marine resources in the northern Pacific in which both countries are interested. [end recording]

After expressing his opinion on Japan's salmon fishing, Agriculture and Forestry Minister Nakagawa concluded: [begin recording] [Words indistinct] and I am confident if our current talks are brought to a speedy conclusion, the friendly relations between Japan and the Soviet Union will become as wonderful as today's weather. [end recording]

Soviet Quota Proposal Rejected

OW141205Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1055 GMT 14 Apr 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, April 14, KYODO--The Soviet delegation to the Japan-Soviet fishery talks, now under way in Moscow, has proposed to set Japan's salmon catch quota for this year at 41,000 tons, 5,500 tons more than it proposed earlier, an informed source here said Friday.

The Japanese negotiators, however, refused the proposal, and said they would make a new proposition at the next meeting Friday, the sources close to the bilateral fishery talks said.

Japan has been asking for an allotment of 62,000 tons of salmon for this year, the same as last year's haul.

The sources also said the Soviet negotiators presented a plan to ease the restriction on a no-fishing zone it proposed in the current bilateral talks.

The new no-fishing zone proposed by the Soviet delegation is located in the north Pacific between 170 and 175 degrees east longitude and north of 44 degrees north latitude.

Nakagawa Extends Moscow Visit

OW150111Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0018 GMT 15 Apr 78 OW

[Excerpt] Moscow, April 14 KYODO--Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa and Soviet Fisheries Minister Aleksandr A. Ishkov held their fourth round of talks at a resthouse in the suburbs of Moscow Friday afternoon but failed to reach agreement on Japan's salmon catch quota for this year in the northwest Pacific and on various measures to control fishing operations. As a result, the two ministers decided to continue their talks Saturday morning. Informed sources said, however, that signing of an agreement during Saturday, as hoped for by Nakagawa, is now impossible. As a result, Nakagawa informed Ishkov he planned to extend his sojourn in Moscow until next week. He had originally planned to return to Tokyo Sunday.

Nakagawa told newsmen after his fourth round of talks with Ishkov that the negotiations had not run into a deadlock. He revealed that Ishkov had stated that there still was room for conducting of discussions and promised to make a restudy of the Soviet Union's stand after an analysis is conducted by experts.

At the third round of talks held at the Soviet Fisheries Ministry Friday morning between Nakagawa and Ishkov, the Soviet Union made some concessions concerning extension of the fishing period in certain areas. Nakagawa demanded that the Soviet Union reconsider its earlier proposal on the catch quota and on areas where operations will be banned.

Fishing Negotiations 'Deadlocked'

OW171057Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1049 GMT 17 Apr 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, April 17, KYODO--Yoshihide Uchimura, adviser to the Japanese agriculture-forestry minister, and Soviet Vice Fisheries Minister Nikolay Kudryavtsev, postponed their meeting scheduled to start at 10 am (4 p.m. JST) Monday.

The new schedule for the meeting was not announced.

The meeting was to be followed by a conference between Japanese Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa and Soviet Fisheries Minister Aleksandr A. Ishkov later in the day to find a breakthrough in the deadlocked negotiations for conclusion of a new Japan-Soviet fishery agreement.

PRC HEGEMONISM HIT AS CHINESE SHIPS REMAIN NEAR SENKAKU

LD161638Y Moscow TASS in English 1608 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 16, TASS--More than 20 Chinese fishing ships have been for the fifth day now in waters near the Senkaku Islands, 400 kilometres south-west of Okinawa, the Japanese Maritime Security Agency announced today. The KYODO TSUSHIN news agency points out that, in the opinion of Japanese authorities, these provocative actions of the Chinese ships have the aim to reaffirm Peking's claims to the Japanese island of Senkaku. China made such claims as far back as in 1968, when first reports were appeared that a big oil deposit might exist in the area.

According to the Maritime Security Agency, Chinese "fishermen" threatened to open fire from automatic rifles on the crew of the patrol boat Yasyama, when it approached the fishing ships.

At a joint meeting of the government and the top leadership of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, held in Tokyo yesterday, a decision was taken to take every measure to make the Chinese ships leave Senkaku's coastal waters. Minister of Transport K. Fukunaga ordered the head of the Maritime Security Agency to act composedly, but firmly and resolutely.

The events near Senkaku have given rise to profound concern of the Japanese public and the press, which regard these events as a manifestation of Peking's hegemonism. Denouncing in word hegemony, the newspaper Tokyo SHIMBUN writes editorially, Peking at the same time openly makes territorial claims. One can only guess about the real intentions of China which provoked an incident near Senkaku, but there is no doubt that these deliberate actions have a political background. An influential grouping of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party--the council for the study of problems of Asia, which encompasses many deputies of parliament, has passed a resolution, characterising Peking's territorial claims as "undisguised encroachment upon Japan's sovereignty and a manifestation of hegemonism in practice." The Defence Department of the Liberal Democratic Party called upon the government that it should not be in a hurry with resumption of the deadlocked negotiations concerning conclusion of the Japanese-Chinese treaty of "peace and friendship." At a press conference today, Prime Minister of Japan T. Fukuda reiterated that "the Senkaku Islands belong to Japan."

Japanese Patrols Increased

OW1614337 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0730 GMT 16 Apr 78 OW

[Text] The Japanese Government has decided to send more patrol boats to the Senkaku Islands southwest of Okinawa and strengthen air patrols over the area because of the continued presence of 20 armed Chinese fishing boats in the vicinity. Slogans claiming that the Senkaku Islands belong to China hang from the sides of the boats. Japanese Foreign Minister Sonoda said that this unreasonable territorial demand by the PRC is totally groundless and violates international law.

After hearing reports about possible petroleum reserves in the Senkaku Islands area, China made a territorial claim on these islands. China has made territorial demands on each of her neighbors.

JAPANESE CP'S SUCCESSES IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS NOTED

LD170906Y Moscow TASS in English 0655 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 17, TASS--The Japanese communists scored considerable successes at the elections on Sunday to the local organs of power in 12 cities of the country. Fourteen representatives of the Communist Party have been elected to the city councils.

Already nearly 100 candidates from the Communist Party of Japan have scored victories at the elections in prefectures, cities, towns and villages since the start of this year.

MPRP MAY DAY SLOGANS APPEAR IN MONGOLIAN NEWSPAPER

LD161806Y Moscow TASS in English 1755 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, April 16, TASS--"Long live a lasting peace in the whole world"--proclaim May-Day slogans of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] published in the newspaper UNEN today.

The Central Committee of the MPRP proclaims: "May develop and strengthen the world socialist system--the decisive force of the anti-imperialist struggle, the bulwark of peace, democracy and social progress! Long live unity and cohesion of the peoples of the countries of the socialist community! May strengthen the militant alliance of the communist parties of the fraternal socialist countries, based on the tested principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism! The Central Committee of the MPRP warmly and whole-heartedly greets the heroic Soviet people, who are building communism--mankind's bright future.

The May-Day slogans of the Central Committee of the MPRP encompass fraternal greetings to the working class of the capitalist countries, the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America, fighting against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, for national independence, freedom and social progress.

The Central Committee of the MPRP urges to fight for deepening the process of relaxation of international tension, for consistent putting into life the Leninist principle of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems, for reduction of armaments, for full and universal disarmament, against the production of the neutron bomb and its deployment in Europe.

GUYANA'S FORBES BURNHAM IN USSR FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

Leaves Leningrad for Moscow

LD170818Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0808 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Leningrad--Forbes Burnham, prime minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, left Leningrad for Moscow today. He had arrived in the USSR on an official visit at the Soviet Government's invitation.

Met by Kosygin in Moscow

LD170914Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0830 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--Linden Forbes Sampson Burnham, prime minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, heading a government delegation, arrived in Moscow today on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other official personages welcomed the guest at the airport.

CUBAN UN ENVOY'S PRESS CONFERENCE SUMMARIZED

LD151531Y Moscow TASS in English 1506 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] New York, April 15, TASS--Cuba resolutely demands removal of the U.S. imperialist base at Guantanamo which lies in Cuban territory, said Ricardo Alarcon, the permanent representative of the Republic of Cuba at the UNO.

Speaking at a press conference here the Cuban representative said that the policy of Revolutionary Cuba in the United Nations and in the international arena is aimed at strengthening peace and international security, at fighting imperialism and colonialism and giving internationalist support to the revolutionary and national liberation movements, specifically those in the African Continent. Cuba takes pride in the fact that the Cuban people are giving every support they can to the peoples of Africa who are fighting for national liberation. This support he said, is an integral part of the efforts of all progressive forces in the world to eliminate racism and colonialism, which is the main aim of the U.N. Charter.

The Cuban representative reaffirmed full support by Revolutionary Cuba for the struggle of the people of Puerto Rico for self-determination and independence. He also said that the Panama Canal should belong to the people of Panama.

Concerning the convocation of the 6th non-alined summit conference in Havana in 1979, Ricardo Alarcon said that the fact that this major forum will be held on the soil of Revolutionary Cuba testifies to the high international prestige of this republic, one of the members of the socialist community. He also said that this forum is called upon to make an important contribution toward strengthening the unity of the non-alined states in their anti-imperialist struggle and in their struggle for peace and relaxation of international tensions.

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

PARTY, STATE APPROVE RESULTS OF BREZHNEV TRIP TO FAR EAST

LD141655Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1445 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Regarding the results of the visit by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to regions of Siberia and the Far East, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers, having heard an account [informatsiya] by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on his visit to Siberia and the Far East, fully approve the work done by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's trip is of great significance for fulfilling the 25th CPSU Congress decisions on the integrated exploitation of the natural wealth and the development of the production forces of Siberia and the Far East, which are playing an increasing role in the country's economy.

The Central Committees of the union republics' communist parties; the kraykoms; obkoms; okrug committees; gorkoms and raykoms, party organizations; ministries and departments, should draw practical conclusions from the instructions and recommendations expressed by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev during his meetings and talks with working people and party-economic aktivs.

The task is further to increase the production in eastern USSR of coal, oil and gas--in Tyumen most of all--and to make fuller use of the enormous hydroelectric resources of these regions for developing the aluminum, pulp, petrochemical and other industries.

Guided by the fact that the plan is the main instrument for implementing the party's economic policy, all party, administrative and economic bodies must concentrate their basic efforts on insuring the absolute fulfillment of the planned tasks and the socialist pledges they have adopted for 1978 and the 5-year-plan as a whole. In this connection, it is necessary to pay special attention to increasing production through better use of internal reserves; a most rapid mastering of planned capacities at enterprises; overcoming difficulties; and increasing organization, order and discipline in every sector of economic work.

It is incumbent upon local party and administrative bodies, ministries and departments to take measures to accelerate construction of the most important projects due for commissioning, improve material and technical supplies to construction sites, eliminate shortcomings in transportation work, improve transportation planning and bring order to the use of rolling-stock.

In agriculture, first and foremost, powers and attention should be concentrated on carrying out spring sowing at a high agrotechnical level and in a short time, and on insuring the highly productive use of machine-and-tractor depots during spring fieldwork and the harvest. Even now, one must start preparing the material base for storing and processing grain, vegetables and fruit.

It is important to strive toward meeting the population's demand for meat, milk and fruit more and more fully from local production of these products on the basis of a deepening of interoblast specialization and cooperation.

The USSR Gosplan and the RSFSR Council of Ministers, together with the corresponding ministries and departments, must review specific issues on further socioeconomic development of Siberia and the Far East, which were posed by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev during his visit.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers note the great significance of Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's meetings with Soviet soldiers for further improving the military and political training of the personnel of the Soviet Armed Forces. The activity of the Soviet Union in defense is directed at defending and securing itself and its socialist friends from any possible aggression, wherever it may originate. Deeply alien to the Soviet Union is a policy of position of power [politika pozitsiyi sily]. It does not threaten any of its neighbors--close or distant--and strives for the development of good-neighborly relations between states.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers stress the need to strengthen the struggle for deepening detente. Under current conditions, there is no task more important--and which concerns the fate of every man on earth--than achieving real disarmament.

A great step on the way toward this aim could be the conclusion of a long-term agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on limiting strategic offensive weapons on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security for both sides. This would open up prospects for a subsequent transferral to more far-reaching steps in limiting and reducing strategic weapons.

The Soviet Union confirms its proposal on the mutual refusal to produce neutron weapons, which would rid mankind from being drawn into a new round of the arms race. In addition, the Soviet Union, in close cooperation with other countries of the socialist community, will persistently strive for progress in other disarmament issues that are currently being discussed, and for a radical healing of the entire international atmosphere.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers express confidence that Soviet people, with even greater energy, will work to fulfill the 25th CPSU Congress decisions, strengthen the might of our homeland and actively promote the successful achievement of the aims of the internal and foreign policy of the party and Soviet state.

BELORUSSIAN SUPREME SOVIET APPROVES DRAFT CONSTITUTION

LD141536Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The Supreme Soviet of the Belorussian SSR unanimously adopted today the new republican constitution. As an integral part of the extensive program of implementing the union constitution, it reflects and consolidates the achievements of developed socialism and proclaims the basic tasks aimed at further socialist construction, envisages an extensive complex of social and economic rights affecting the very bases of people's lives and reflects the peculiarities of the Belorussian SSR. This was stated by participants in the session of the republic's Supreme Soviet. The closing speech was made by Masherov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee and chairman of the constitutional commission, who noted that all the deputies who spoke unanimously supported the draft constitution and its articles on the guiding and controlling role of the Communist Party in the life of the country.

The session approved the majority of the changes that were introduced into the draft as a result of the nationwide discussion and the deputies' speeches.

UZBEK SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM APPROVES CONSTITUTION

LD151512Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] At a session of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in Tashkent today, the new draft constitution of the republic was discussed. Comrade Rashidov, chairman of the constitution commission, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a report. The republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium approved the draft constitution. It was submitted for consideration at an extraordinary session of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet, which will open on 18 April.

ESTONIAN PARTY PLENUM APPROVES DRAFT CONSTITUTION

LD130347Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] A plenum of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee today examined the draft constitution of the Estonian SSR and the results of its nationwide discussion. A report was delivered by Kebin, chairman of the commission for preparing the draft constitution of the Estonian SSR and first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee. The plenum approved the draft constitution submitted to the commission, with the addenda, amendments and clarifications introduced into it according to the results of the nationwide discussion in the republic. It was decided to submit the draft to an extraordinary session of the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian SSR.

BRIEFS

NEW RAYON--A new rayon, the Karakumy [karakumskiy] Rayon, has been set up in Turkmenia. It is named after the artificial river now crossing the desert--the Lenin Karakumy Canal. Cotton-growing will be the main economic activity in the new rayon. Long-term plans here provide for a considerable expansion of farm crop areas and the intensification of all categories of agricultural production. The development of gas extraction and cotton-processing industries is also planned. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD]

UKRAINIAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY RESHUFFLE--An expanded presidium session of the Ukrainian Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries on 14 April examined the society's tasks in preparing for Soviet Union Days, which are to be held this year in a number of countries with the participation of the Ukrainian SSR. As Orlik has been appointed Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman, the presidium relieved her of the duties of presidium chairman of the Ukrainian Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries. Osnach, hitherto Ukrainian foreign affairs deputy minister, was elected presidium chairman of the society. The session was addressed by Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo Candidate member and Secretary Malanchuk. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 14 April 78 AU]

PARTY SEMINAR IN KIEV--A conference-seminar for party organization secretaries from a number of large textile, knitwear and garments enterprises and associations, fashion houses, scientific-research institutes in the republic was held recently in the headquarters of the Ukrainian CP Central Committee in Kiev to examine the questions of intensifying organizational and mass political work to make use of reserves to increase production and improve the quality of consumer goods in light of the decisions of the 25th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party congresses. The conference-seminar was addressed by Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo candidate member and Secretary Pogrebnyak. [Kiev Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 4 Apr 78 AU]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 14-15 APR

LD150428 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0500 GMT on 14 April reports that 250,000 hectares of sugar beets have been sown in the Ukraine so far. The report points out that cold weather this spring has delayed this work somewhat, but that machine operators are now hurrying to make up for lost time. Chernovitskaya Oblast was the first in the republic to complete the sowing of sugar beets, the reports adds. The same report also says that in Ternopolskaya Oblast, the largest corn-growing oblast in the Ukraine, the sowing of corn is proceeding at the rate of 12,000 hectares per day. Reporting on the progress of cotton growing in Uzbekistan, the 0500 GMT agricultural review says that the first cotton shoots have appeared in the southern regions of the republic, with warm spring weather and moist soil contributing to the rapid germination of the seeds. The sowing campaign is being completed in the northern rayons of the republic, it says, with 1.5 million hectares sown to cotton throughout Uzebekistan so far. That figure represents two-thirds of the area allocated to cotton. The same review continues with a report that the corn sowing has begun in the Chuy Valley of Kirgizia. An area of 110,000 hectares has been allocated to corn in Kirgizia this year, it says. The review concludes with a report that Kurskaya Oblast (RSFSR) has sown 10,000 hectares of early grain crops so far. At 1530 GMT Moscow Radio reports that corn sowing for grain and silage began on the farms of southern Kazakhstan today. Corn is to be grown on 2.3 million hectares throughout the republic this year, it says. At 1600 GMT the radio reports that the first 100,000 hectares of early grain crops have been sown in Primorskiy Kray (RSFSR).

At 0500 GMT on 15 April the radio reports that spring fieldwork has started on Kazakhstan's Virgin Lands. Tselinogradskaya, Kokchetavskaya and Kustanayskaya oblasts have started selective harrowing. The early spring has made it possible to start this work almost 3 weeks earlier than usual, the report says. At 0700 GMT the radio says that early grain and industrial crops have been sown on 500,000 hectares in the lower Volga region. Warm, sunny weather has set in following the cold spell. Harrowing has been completed in 22 out of 33 rayons. Feeding of winter crops with fertilizers has been carried out on 900,000 hectares. At 0830 GMT it is reported that in Vologodskaya Oblast winter grain crops occupy 1.5 million hectares, and these are now receiving mineral fertilizer. The report adds that warm weather has now come to Kazakhstan after plentiful rain and snow, and that the southern oblasts of the republic are now sowing cotton, corn and sugar beets. In the north, harrowing is being carried out on 20 million hectares, the report concludes. At 1100 GMT a radio correspondent reports from Khersonskaya Oblast in the Ukraine that sowing work is proceeding well. However, unstable weather conditions are causing some concern, he says. He also says that the sowing of early grain crops in the oblast has now been completed, along with the simultaneous application of minteral fertilizer. Now the sowing of late crops, corn and rice, is to be carried out. The area in the republic devoted to corn has been doubled this year, the correspondent concludes. At 1200 GMT the radio reports that winter breadgrain occupies an area of almost 1 million hectares in Uzbekistan. The crop is in good condition almost everywhere, and plants have started sprouting on a third of the whole area, the radio says. At 1400 GMT it is reported that sowing has begun in Moskovskaya Oblast, where spring grain crops will occupy 200,000 hectares this year; an average yield of 30 quintals per hectare is hoped for. The report adds that in Saratovskaya Oblast (RSFSR) aircraft are applying top dressing to winter rye and wheat, which occupy an area of more than 800,000 hectares in the oblast. At 1900 GMT the radio reports that early spring crops have been sown on an area of 250,000 hectares in Belgorodskaya Oblast. The report adds that harrowing has been completed on the entire winter fallow area of over 1 million hectares.

COSMONAUTS GUBAREV, GRECHKO, KLIMUK AWARDED GOLD MEDALS

LD131230Y Moscow TASS in English 1153 GMT 13 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 13, TASS--Tsiolkovskiy gold medals were presented to pilot-cosmonauts Aleksey Gubarev, Georgiy Grechko and Petr Klimuk today. This high decoration was awarded to them for the successful flight of the orbital station Salyut-4 and Soyuz spaceships. The Salyut-4 station functioned from 1974 to 1977. The pilot-cosmonauts who worked at aboard the station, made the Soyuz-17 and Soyuz-18 space flight in 1975, they spent a total of about three months aboard the Salyut-4 station. [sentence as received]

Presenting the awards, Anatoliy Aleksandrov, president of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, has recalled that pilot-cosmonaut Vitaliy Sevastyanov, who also worked aboard the orbital station Salyut-4, was awarded the Tsiolkovskiy medal for the previous spaceship Soyuz-9 flight.

Gold medals, named after Tsiolkovskiy, an outstanding Russian scientist, the founder of cosmonautics, are awarded by the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences once in three years.

EARTHQUAKE CATALOG AIDS IN FORECASTING TREMORS

LD171102Y Moscow TASS in English 1000 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Dushanbe, April 17 TASS--A catalogue of earthquakes, which occurred in Tadzhikistan during the past 89 years, fed into the memory of an electronic computer enables scientists to receive in a matter of seconds information about parameters of earth tremors, which are possible in some or other area of the Soviet republic. The information is necessary for use in research projects and for practical recommendations to builders.

The catalogue is supplemented with day-to-day reports on the seismic situation in that major region of Soviet Central Asia. Seismologists are using the latest methods of seismicity observations. An automated information center has been established with this aim in view at the Institute of Seismic-Proof Construction and Seismology of the Academy of Sciences of Tadziskistan. It receives signals of seismo-telemetric stations, data about the chemical composition of thermal wells, signals of slight changes in the local magnetic fields and many other harbingers of earthquakes.

This has enabled to forecast an increase in seismic activity in central Tadzhikistan lately, as well as in the zone of the storage lake being filled now, which was formed on the Vaksh River by means of the dam of the Nurek power plant (2.7 million kilowatts).

BRIEFS

SUBBOTNIK IN ANTARCTIC--More than 800 seamen have participated in the Leninist subbotnik in the Antarctic area. The baseship Sovetskaya Rossiya of the Soviet whaling fleet reports in a radio message that all vessels and shops worked well, and excellent results were achieved by the whaling vessels (Davushchiy), Zakalennyy and other vessels. The Sovetskaya Rossiya has fulfilled its third year plan tasks of the 5-year plan period and will soon arrive in Vladivostok. [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0935 GMT 14 Apr 78 OW]

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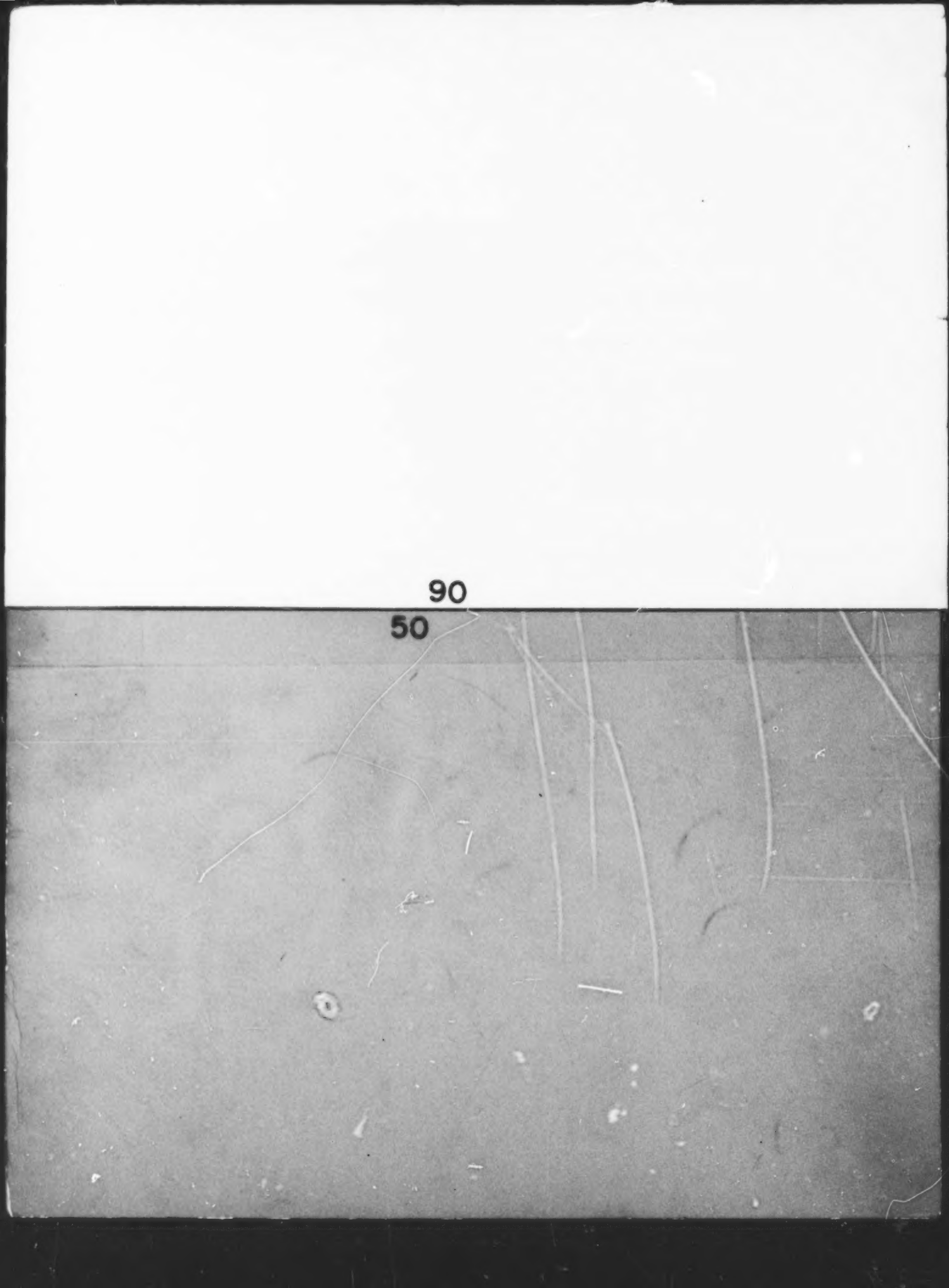
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